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YAKHONTOV REVIEWS DETENTE, NEUTRON DECISION, MIDEAST

LD181027Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 16 Apr 78 p 4 LD

[International review by Yuliy Yakhontov: "The International Week"]

[Text] Last week the results of the trip which Comrade L.I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, made to regions of Siberia and the Far East and his speech in Vladivostok devoted to the most important international problems were at the center of attention of the whole world and the mass information organs of various countries.

Comrade L.I. Brezhnev's forthcoming visit to the FRG is giving rise to great interest everywhere.

The problems of detente and disarmament together with questions of bilateral relations were discussed during talks between G. Husak, general secretary of the CPCZ Central Committee and CSSR president, and FRG leaders in Bonn.

Nor is the subject of the Near East leaving the newspaper pages. The sabotage by the Israeli aggressors, who are dragging out the withdrawal of their troops from southern Lebanon and are reluctant to embark on the path of a true peace settlement in the Near East, is causing righteous indignation among the people.

In the past few days tension has arisen in relations between Japan and the PRC in connection with Peking's claims to the Japanese Senkaku Islands. Tokyo has decided to postpone indefinitely Foreign Minister Sonoda's trip to China. Nonetheless the Japanese leaders have agreed that they will continue their efforts toward a so-called peace and friendship treaty with Peking irrespective of the dispute over the islands.

Detente and Its Destiny

The shift toward the relaxation of international tension is the determining factor in the present state of world affairs. An enormous part in the impressive successes achieved on this path has been played by our party's consistent pursuit of a Leninist foreign policy and by the purposeful efforts of the USSR, the fraternal socialist states and all peace-loving forces and people.

But the struggle for the cause of peace is continuing daily and hourly. The opponents of peaceful coexistence and mutually advantageous cooperation and circles which, counter to the logic of life and the objective course of the development of international relations, are reluctant to abandon the trenches of the cold war, are stoking an atmosphere of fear and hostility and are not laying down their arms. It is above all the desire--doomed to fail--to halt the victorious advance of the ideas of socialism and communism and change the correlation of forces in their favor which lies at the basis of their position.

The problem of detente is the most important problem of our day, affecting the destiny of every person on earth. To halt the arms race and insure progress toward the reduction and, in the final analysis, the elimination of the threat of a thermonuclear catastrophe--this is precisely the salient leading to the resolution of the fundamental question--the question of how the international situation will develop. And it is on precisely this salient that the keenest struggle is now developing.

The Soviet Union has frequently demonstrated its good will and sincere desire to help find ways to resolve the most urgent issue of the present day. Our country's numerous specific proposals for curbing the arms race, primarily the nuclear arms race, and for disarmament are well known. They continue to meet with support from peace-loving people and countries.

The USSR's positive and constructive position was again set forth in Vladivostok. It was also confirmed in the document, published yesterday, of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, and USSR Council of Ministers "on the results of the trip by L.I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, to regions of Siberia and the Far East."

UPI has described this document, published a few days before the visit to Moscow by U.S. Secretary of State C. Vance, as an appeal by the Soviet Union's supreme leading bodies for the conclusion of a new strategic offensive arms limitation agreement on the basis of the sides' equality. UPI highlights the document's words to the effect that this agreement "would open up prospects for a subsequent transition to more far-reaching steps for the limitation and reducing of strategic arms."

And this is indeed so. Therefore, the Vladivostok speech's just criticism of the U.S. position on retarding and halting the arms race and its criticism of the policy of prolonging the strategic offensive arms limitation talks and of the United States' attempts to obtain one-sided advantages for itself has met with understanding and approval among many press organs and politicians and public figures in the West.

It should be said that many widely publicized statements in favor of disarmament have been made in the West recently. For instance, Z. Brzezinski, the U.S. President's assistant for national security affairs, mentioned this recently, stating: "We have wanted and still want to conclude a new strategic offensive arms limitation agreement with the Soviet Union." Many eminent West European figures are saying the same thing, and many newspapers, including the Vatican's L'OSSERVATORE ROMANO are writing about it.

But a paradoxical situation arises: While verbally warmly supporting an end to the arms race and disarmament, certain Western circles immediately "cool off" when they see before them the perfectly specific, realistic proposals of the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries leading directly to this aim. The bogey of "the growing Soviet threat" is immediately brought out. To the accompaniment of a propaganda chorus describing this threat in every way, the United States and the other NATO countries are increasing their military appropriations and whipping up the arms race, which has already reached gigantic proportions. Apart from the United States, military spending is increasing in Britain, the FRG, Belgium, the Netherlands and other NATO countries.

A statement by the Ankara newspaper YENI GUN is curious in this connection. It wrote recently: "What has Turkey obtained from NATO membership? Absolutely nothing. On the contrary, it has been obliged to bear the cost of maintaining the bloc's second largest army, in numerical terms, after the U.S. Army, and to spend considerable sums...." It continues: "In the past few days we have frequently seen posters reading 'no to NATO' on walls. And if...you think about realities, it becomes clear that one in no way needs to be a socialist to agree with the appeals on these posters."

Unfortunately, so far it has to be noted that the West and above all the United States is not displaying any readiness to switch from words to deeds, although it is clear that only radical measures and specific deeds can lead mankind to lasting peace and security.

Sword of Damocles

President J. Carter's decision to defer production of the neutron weapon has given rise to quite contradictory comments in the United States and the countries which are its NATO allies, although these comments are in general directed toward a single aim. The U.S. press, representing the interests of ruling circles, is presenting this as a gesture of "good will," as an "example" which should be followed. Incidentally, the press hints quite openly that this step was taken under pressure from the United States' NATO partners. Now, some newspapers and even certain high-ranking figures are stating, the Soviet Union must display "restraint" of its own in the arms sphere. They disregard the very important fact that the White House decision does not mean the total renunciation of the neutron bomb, which is what the people are resolutely demanding, but merely the postponement of its production. This postponement is by no means as harmless as people are trying to make out. After all, it has been said that modernization of the Lance missile and 8-inch shells will be continued so that neutron warheads can later be used in them. How is this apology for a "good will gesture" to be assessed? Is it not simply a trap?

Other newspapers and figures criticize the White House for this decision and call for immediate production of this weapon of mass destruction, pretending they cannot see that the road to the neutron bomb is by no means closed. Its evident supporters include the Christian Democratic Union/Christian Social Union faction in the West German Bundestag which, DPA reported, has submitted for the deputies' examination a draft resolution "tantamount to approval of the neutron weapon."

Others, like the New York TIMES for instance, believe that Washington's decision can and should be used as a "trump card" in negotiations with the Soviet Union on problems of strategic offensive arms limitation and disarmament. But after all, it is perfectly clear that the neutron bomb is not a subject for the negotiations now underway between the USSR and the United States. They are devoted to completely different problems. The desire to link these unrelated issues into a single package is simply an attempt to drag out an agreement on strategic arms limitation, to force the USSR to make concessions, and to achieve one-sided advantages for the United States to the detriment of the security of our country and the other fraternal countries.

Despite certain differences in the aforementioned opinions and viewpoints, they clearly have the same propaganda orientation: to take the heat out of the people's campaign against the neutron bomb and to soothe alarmed public opinion in those West European countries that are the United States' NATO allies, and then, when passions have died down, to gradually deploy this barbaric means of annihilation. It was not for nothing that the French newspaper LE FIGARO wrote recently that the United States "invented this new and very effective weapon not for the defense of its territory, which is not threatened by any danger, but for use on European territory." The London TIMES expressed quite candidly what this might lead to: "By using this weapon, the military could cause a real nuclear war."

Putting it briefly, it is quite clear that Washington's "neutron maneuver" changes little in this acute and crucial question--the question of that barbaric offensive weapon. And no propaganda hullabaloo is capable of persuading the people that a sword of Damocles in the form of neutron death is not hanging over their heads and that it is not necessary to reduce or end completely the struggle against these criminal plans.

There is a single, real path for delivering mankind from this threat--the path proposed by the Soviet Union: that agreement be reached on the mutual renunciation of production of neutron weapons, and that a convention be signed, a draft of which was submitted by the socialist countries to the Disarmament Committee in Geneva. But shifts of position and all kinds of tricks do not demonstrate any serious intentions by certain Western leaders in favor of the important matter of disarmament. But it is time that they gave proper consideration to their responsibility to their own people and to all people for the fate of peace and show an actual readiness to take effective steps toward curbing the arms race.

The Knotty Near East Problem

As before the situation in the Near East, especially on Lebanon's southern border and also in Beirut, remains extremely serious and fraught with many dangers.

Israel has at last begun formal withdrawal of its troops from the occupied regions of the country. As matters stood on 11 April, a sector...about 12 km long and 2 to 5 km wide has been transferred to UN control. This was a month after the UN Security Council adopted a resolution on the immediate withdrawal of the Israeli aggressors' troops from the occupied south Lebanese territories!

On 14 April Israel began "the second stage" of the troop withdrawal, its miserly scale merely confirms that Tel Aviv is deliberately dragging out the conflict in southern Lebanon and wants to avoid fulfilling the Security Council resolution and to preserve key positions for itself along the entire Israeli-Lebanese border.

As is reported from Beirut, a group of foreign journalists visited the region left by the Israeli troops. The journalists drew attention above all to the fact that the region is of no military significance and in no way affects Tel Aviv's military presence on Lebanese territory.

In the village of Rashayya al-Fukhkhar, which journalists visited after the aggressor's troops departed, not a single house was left unscathed. Out of 2,000 inhabitants, only 20 people were left there--the rest had been forced to abandon the settlement to escape the aggressors' bombs and shells.

The U.S. newspaper the Washington POST wrote on 12 April that the withdrawal of Tel Aviv's military units "is merely a pullback to new lines closer to the Israeli border and in no way signifies a reduction in the number of Israeli troops in Lebanon," which at the height of the invasion, numbered 20,000 Israeli servicemen. Paris' LE FIGARO declared that the Israeli troop withdrawal is, according to a commonly-held opinion, "a purely symbolic gesture." Begin, the newspaper continues, wanted to give the Americans this small satisfaction while at the same time wanting to avoid condemnation by the United Nations.

At the same time, many press organs, particularly the London DAILY TELEGRAPH, are noting that talks are being conducted behind the scenes among Washington, Cairo and Tel Aviv to devise a separate compromise solution to the Near East problem.

However, life has already shown on many occasions that no separate deals behind the scenes can lead to a genuine peace settlement in this region, nor, incidentally, in any other region.

The terms for a solution of the Near East problem, which were proposed by the Soviet Union and have been supported by many states and people, are quite precise and specific: They are--the unconditional withdrawal of Israeli troops from all occupied Arab territories; the implementation of the inalienable rights of the Arab people of Palestine, and above all the right to self-determination, including the creation of their own state; and the guaranteeing of the independent existence and security of all states of that region.

The time has long been ripe for an end to the unprincipled political maneuvers in the Near East, which are dangerous for the Arabs' interests, and the matter of a settlement channeled back toward the Geneva conference. Only this path would coincide with the vital interests of the people of that region and would become a major contribution to the cause of improving the international climate.

And so yet another week has gone by, packed with serious events in the international arena. They show that the struggle for peace, the relaxation of tension and disarmament is growing with each passing day. In this struggle the sympathies and appreciation of all people that advocate peace and social progress are with the Soviet Union and the fraternal countries of the socialist community.

BREZHNEV MESSAGE GREETS WFTU CONGRESS IN PRAGUE

LD180603Y Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 16 Apr 78 Morning Edition p 1 LD

[Apparent text of Brezhnev message to the Ninth World Congress of Trade Unions in Prague--date not specified]

[Text] Dear friends!

I wholeheartedly greet you, the representatives of the trade unions of all continents, who have gathered for the world congress, which is graphically demonstrating the mighty unifying force of the solidarity of working people.

The role of the working class and trade unions is growing in the struggle for democracy and the people's freedom and for social progress and peace. Ever broader working masses are viewing the trade unions as the active organizer of demonstrations in defense of their interests and rights and against unemployment and inflation and all forms of social and national oppression and against racism and fascism.

The noble aims of the struggle to spare mankind from the threat of a nuclear missile war are now becoming the leading activity of trade unions of all orientations. There is no task more acute or urgent than the ending of the arms race, which is being intensified by the aggressive circles of imperialist reaction and the opponents of the relaxation of international tension. The unending production of arms is already a heavy burden on the working class and all working people.

The working class and all working people and their organizations are vitally interested in halting the supplementing of military arsenals with new types and systems of weapons of mass destruction and in halting this senseless rush toward catastrophe. The duty of politicians and statesmen is to listen to the voice of the people, who are saying: "No to a new spiral in the arms race! No to the neutron bomb!" The transfer to constructive purposes of the enormous funds and resources which the arms race is devouring and the transition to disarmament are imperative requirements of our times.

The Soviet Union has done and will continue to do everything possible to prevent a new world war and to halt preparation for it.

Unity of action of various detachments of the working people and trade unions is one of the main sources of international working class strength, and the consolidation of its leading role in present-day world development. The working people of the USSR and the socialist countries, loyal to their international duty, invariably support the course toward the rallying of the struggling forces of the organized workers and trade union movement.

The USSR trade unions are our country's most mass-based organizations, enjoying the full trust and support of the entire Soviet people, the CPSU and the Soviet state. They play an enormous role in the defense of the working people's rights and interests and take an active part in all spheres of Soviet life, in boosting production and improving the Soviet people's well-being, in managing the national economy and in further developing socialist democracy.

The Soviet trade unions have been cooperating actively in the WFTU since its very inception. They support its efforts to rally the trade union organizations on a class basis, of all trends operating under the conditions of diverse sociopolitical systems, and they are promoting the growth of the WFTU's authority and the raising of its effectivess and further rapprochement with the struggle of the broad masses.

I wish the Ninth World Congress of Trade Unions and all those taking part successful work in the spirit of unity for the benefit of the working people of all countries.

[Signed] L.I. Brezhnev.

MOUNTING PROBLEMS FACING OPEC CONFERENCE IN VIENNA

LD141334Y Moscow TASS in English 1232 GMT 14 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Vienna, April 14 TASS--TASS correspondent Mikhail Kochetkov reports: The leaders of the national petroleum companies of 11 OPEC countries had a meeting at the OPEC headquarters here. As Ali M. Jeida, the OPEC secretary-general, said, they had a wide-ranging exchange of opinions concerning search of ways of cooperation between national oil companies. This problem is now given great attention by the OPEC Secretariat. Having secured the right to use their own oil at their own discretion after long and hard-fought struggle against Western monopolies, the OPEC countries have to put up, to this day, with the fact that most of the oil is sold and rebought by seven giant Western oil monopolies. In other words, the Western monopolies still control about 80 per cent of international oil trade. Such a situation is naturally giving the OPEC countries cause for great concern, since millions of dollars in profit go to the Western monopolies. Therefore the national oil companies should coordinate efforts with the OPEC to deal effectively with this problem.

Another important problem worrying all the oil-producing states is the dollar's declining rate of exchange. According to the OPEC countries, the countries, members of this organization, lost over 12 billion dollars last year alone because of the falling value of the American currency. More and more persistent demands are to be heard in the OPEC for replacing the dollar with another unit of account.

The problem of oil prices is also a very important one for the OPEC. Although the incomes of the OPEC countries have dropped sharply lately because of a steady rise in the prices of goods imported from capitalist states, Saudi Arabia and a number of other states, closely linked with American oil monopolies, stubbornly oppose any increase in oil prices.

GATT DISCUSSIONS FAIL TO PRODUCE JAPANESE CONCESSIONS

LD162036Y Moscow TASS in English 2013 GMT 16 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Tokyo April 16 TASS--TASS correspondents Vladimir Kuchko and Stanislav Nozdrev report: The Japanese State Minister for Foreign Economic Matters N. Ushiba has returned to Tokyo from his West European trip. During his visit he took part in a meeting of representatives of the United States, Common Market countries and Japan within the framework of multilateral negotiations of the Tokyo round of GATT (General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade).

In the course of the tripartite negotiations, the local press points out, the delegations of the United States and the EEC demanded again that Japan should take concrete steps in trade policy to enable a freer access of their commodities to her market, describing Tokyo's proposals on a reduction in tariffs on imported commodities and expansion of purchases of agricultural products, as obviously insufficient.

During his visit to a number of West European states N. Ushiba had to listen to serious criticism of Japanese monopolies' foreign economic expansion. A big deficit in trade with the Far Eastern partner is a cause of serious concern and dissatisfaction in the capitals of the countries of the Nine, and also in Washington.

As is clear from the figures published here today, Japan's favourable balance in trade with the United States and the EEC in the past fiscal year largely exceeded the 1976 level and achieved unprecedented proportions--respectively 8,900,000 and 4,600,000 dollars.

Admitting in word, the need of resolving this problem, Japan is not, however, in a hurry to take effective measures. The relevant Japanese ministries, which attend to questions of foreign trade links, the newspaper YOMIURI points out, believe that sufficient concessions have already been made. A further expansion of imports might weaken Japanese companies' positions in the rivalry with companies of other countries.

Appraising N. Ushiba's visit, local commentators point out that in the course of the visit the Japanese minister failed to lessen dissatisfaction and suspicion towards Tokyo. Japan is in a predicament, YOMIURI points out, and pressure from the United States and the Common Market will increase, if no reply is made to their demands.

SPECULATION ON MOTIVES BEHIND VANCE TRIP TO MOSCOW

LD190126Y Moscow in English to North America 2230 GMT 18 Apr 78 LD

[Vladislav Kozyakov commentary]

[Text] It is commonly felt that definite progress has been made at the SALT-II talks. For the most part the documents have already been drafted and agreed on. Now it is necessary to make joint efforts to reach an early conclusion of this agreement which is so important to world peace. This is the Soviet Union's position. President Brezhnev said in Vladivostok recently that this country would like to see an agreement based on equality and like security. He pointed out that at the SALT-II talks a principled solution has been found to some of the remaining issues, and in general the number of unresolved questions have been narrowed down. President Brezhnev stressed this progress has been largely due to the patient and constructive effort of the Soviet Union.

Leading members of the administration in Washington have on many occasions commented on the Soviet Union's constructive and businesslike approach at the talks. Such statements have also been made by the head of the American delegation, Paul Warnke, and just yesterday a State Department adviser, Mr Shulman, was quoted in the New York TIMES as saying that the Americans at the talks believe the Soviet Union wants to see a successful conclusion. Mr Shulman also said that Leonid Brezhnev's speech gives a sober evaluation of the importance of the talks as the most critical point on the agenda of the Soviet-American talks. Therefore, just before Vance's visit to Moscow the question arises: What instructions is he bringing regarding the SALT-II talks? It has been nearly 3½ years since Leonid Brezhnev and President Ford agreed in Vladivostok on guidelines for an arms limitation treaty. Then they expected the treaty would be signed in 1975. The summer of that year Mr Kissinger reported that the treaty was 90 percent ready for signing. But despite these expectations the agreement still was not completed under that administration. Later Mr Ford admitted this was due to differences within the administration or, to be more exact, because of pressure from the Pentagon.

Later, right after the 1976 presidential elections, attempts were made in the United States to overturn the Vladivostok agreement altogether. The Soviet Union was presented with proposals made by senators who had from the very beginning been against limiting strategic arms. Throughout the SALT-II talks the Americans have been clearly inconsistent and indecisive. They have often looked back at those groups who are against easing tension, who do not want disarmament and prefer an uncontrolled arms race. Because of this approach representatives of the United States at the talks have been rejecting proposals that had already been agreed on or have been deliberately putting forth unacceptable proposals aimed at obtaining unilateral advantages, or have tried to hinge the outcome of the talks on unrelated political issues. This is why the question arises as to why Mr Cyrus Vance is coming to Moscow.

Is Washington now ready to show a truly businesslike and sober approach to the SALT-II talks, an approach free from indecision and vacillation and one that truly takes into account the extreme importance of reaching an agreement? The Soviet Union feels the SALT-II talks are of utmost importance. A recent official report of Leonid Brezhnev's trip to Siberia and the Far East stressed that today there is no more important task affecting the future of humanity than to attain real disarmament. Progress towards this end would be the conclusion between the Soviet Union and the United States of a long-term agreement on limiting strategic offensive arms based on equality and like security. This would open up prospects for more far-reaching measures to limit and then reduce strategic arms.

Attends CENTO Session

LD182334Y Moscow in English to Great Britain and Ireland 2100 GMT 18 Apr 78 LD

[Text] In London there was a 1-day meeting of the foreign ministers of the CENTO military alliance today. Taking part were the United States secretary of state, Cyrus Vance, and the foreign ministers of Britain, Iran, Turkey and Pakistan. Formally the United States is not a CENTO member, but it plays the leading role in the alliance. The participants discussed important international problems, including the situation in southern Africa from where Mr Vance and his British counterpart, Dr Owen, had just returned. The meeting in London also dealt with the Middle East issue and the situation in the Horn of Africa. It is assumed that the United States secretary of state made use of the meeting to try to improve relations with Turkey. For this purpose the United States recently promised Turkey to resume arms deliveries which were stopped 4 years ago because of the events in Cyrpus.

SENATE RATIFIES SECOND PANAMA CANAL TREATY

LD190835Y Moscow TASS in English 0702 GMT 19 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Washington, April 19, TASS--The U.S. Senate ratified the new Panama Canal treaties that envisage the transfer of the control over the waterway to Panama by the year 2000. The treaties, signed by the leaders of the two countries last year, replace the shackling agreement of 1903 which was imposed on Panama and which converted the Panama Canal Zone into Washington's colonial enclave.

The discussion of the treaties was held in an atmosphere of gross pressure on Panama on the part of U.S. reaction, which sought to revise the intergovernmental accord and take out its essence.

EDITORIAL CRITICIZES U.S. STAND ON SALT-II, NEUTRON BOMB

LD181521Y Moscow ZA RUBEZHOM in Russian No 16 Signed to Press 13 Apr 78 p 1 LD

[Editorial: "Loyalty to the Set Goal"]

[Text] The 25th Leninist Party Congress set our country truly imposing tasks of economic and social development. Their resolution--and above all the insuring a further steady rise in the Soviet people's living standards--is attainable only under conditions of peace. The Soviet state's consistent pursuit of a peace-loving foreign policy, which originated with V.I. Lenin, and the purposeful efforts of the other countries of the fraternal socialist community have conditioned the dependable foundations for long and lasting peace and the people's security. But this is still not enough. This is why the struggle over questions of the further fate of political detente and of supplementing it with military detente is acquiring still greater acuteness and intensity.

Fundamental Question

Precisely this is indicated by the speech of L.I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidum, to the sailors of the Red Banner Pacific Fleet--a speech which has drawn a broad international response. [paragraph continues]

This is natural, above all, because the Vladivostok speech analyzed in depth the state of Soviet-U.S. relations, the course of the talks on strategic offensive arms limitation and the problem of neutron weapons, and also because L.I. Brezhnev's speech is eloquent new testimony to the love of peace of the land of the soviets and a manifestation of the efforts of the Leninist CPSU Central Committee aimed at delivering the people from the threat of thermonuclear disaster and insuring a peaceful future--efforts which know neither pause nor respite.

"For all the significance of a particular problem," L.I. Brezhnev said in Vladivostok, "under modern conditions there is no task more important, affecting the fate of everyone on earth, than that of achieving real disarmament." In actual fact, the chief problem now on the agenda of international life is the need to halt the arms race and to insure progress toward reducing and ultimately removing the threat of thermonuclear disaster. It is in precisely this direction that the "fundamental question," to use L.I. Brezhnev's words, is being resolved--the question of how the world situation will develop.

As is known, the relaxation of international tension, which coincides with the fundamental interests of all people, has many enemies. They are, above all, those who are interested in the arms race, who stoke an atmosphere of fear and hostility, who sow doubts as to the possibility of taking practical measures for arms limitation and disarmament and who hinder the attainment of such agreements.

Giving a detailed account of L.I. Brezhnev's Vladivostok speech and commenting widely on it, the foreign press singles out his comment that the activities of the enemies of detente have a negative effect on the position of the United States and certain other countries, which are the USSR's partners in the talks on questions of curbing and ending the arms race. Many commentators believe that Vladivostok was not chosen by chance as the place for such an important speech. It was in precisely this city 3.5 years ago that the Soviet-U.S. summit meeting was held, which led to the accord on the conclusion of a long-term agreement between the USSR and the United States on the limitation of strategic offensive arms. However, the agreement still has not been signed. "Now, on the eve of U.S. Secretary of State C. Vance's visit to the USSR," London's THE DAILY TELEGRAPH writes: "The Soviet leader has expressed his displeasure at the fact that the accords reached in Vladivostok in November 1974 are not being fulfilled by the U.S. side."

The reason for this lies in the fact that the U.S. administration is displaying indecision and inconsistency and looking back at those circles which have been against the agreement right from the start and which are doing everything to wreck it and to untie their hands for an uncontrolled nuclear missile arms race. Hence the attempts being made by the U.S. side to retouch in its own favor what had been agreed on earlier, and even to cast doubt on it altogether, and somehow to link the course of the talks--and the very fate of the agreement!--with other political problems, in the hope of putting pressure on the USSR. Some people in Washington are evidently falling into the very grave mistake of interpreting the USSR's readiness to conclude an agreement as an opportunity to secure one-sided advantages for the United States. Undoubtedly the USSR continues to insist on the speediest ending of the talks and on the attainment of an agreement, but only one which would be in strict accordance with the basic principle of equality and identical security. Further procrastination and all sorts of maneuvers over the talks can only lead to the result that the very possibility of concluding the agreement may be missed.

Ban the Neutron Bomb

Many foreign commentaries point out that the Vladivostok speech contains well-reasoned criticism of Washington's stand on the question of neutron weapons and of the U.S. administration's attempts to avoid replying to the USSR's specific proposal on the mutual renunciation of their production.

L.I. Brezhnev's weighed arguments in favor of talks and concrete measures to reduce arms have rightly been evaluated throughout the world as a call to take the path leading to the strengthening of peace and detente--the only sensible path....But how has the U.S. President responded to this call? J. Carter has announced his decision to "postpone" the production of neutron weapons, which, obviously for camouflage, he called "enhanced radiation weapons." The President deemed it necessary here to specify that "the ultimate decision will be made later." With the obvious purpose of securing concessions from the USSR on questions unrelated to the matter, he tried to link the ultimate decision with measures to strengthen the Soviet Union's defense capability, which have no bearing on neutron weapons.

The important point--renunciation of the production of these lethal weapons--is missing from the U.S. President's decision, as it is not difficult to note. Their series production has merely been postponed temporarily. At the same time the Pentagon has received the President's orders to proceed with the modernization of delivery vehicles for these weapons--the Lance missile and the 8-inch artillery shell--for the subsequent incorporation of a neutron warhead in them.

Issuing explanations, an official White House spokesman called the order received by the Pentagon the "main element of the decision" and added that it will make it possible subsequently to deploy neutron weapons "with the minimum loss of time" and "without any delay." U.S. Defense Secretary H. Brown has also described the situation regarding neutron weapons in almost the same words.

Under these conditions one can only be amazed at the fact that official Washington and the U.S. propaganda services are trying to pass off this evasive decision, which bears the stamp of pressure from the "hawks" and from those whose interests they represent, as a "substantial compromise" and even a "gesture of good will" allegedly made against the wishes of the chief NATO allies, which, you see, were dreaming of the deployment of the neutron bomb on their territory. However, one can clearly perceive, behind the decision of the head of the U.S. administration, the intention to use the threat of putting the neutron bomb into production as a "trump card" at the SALT talks with the Soviet Union and to secure certain advantages for himself. Vain intention! As is known, when speaking in Vladivostok, L.I. Brezhnev decisively rejected Washington's attempts to make the neutron bomb a bargaining counter.

The White House has in point of fact ignored the demands of the people, who have evaluated the U.S. President's decision as an attempt to mislead them and divert them from the struggle against a new twist in the arms race.

Without Pause or Respite

It is the people's age-old dream to beat swords into plowshares and to remove destructive war from the life of mankind. Great October turned this dream into a practical task. The CPSU and the Soviet state are daily engaged in resolving it. [paragraph continues]

Comrade L.I. Brezhnev's visit to the FRG, due in early May, has been dictated by the aims of strengthening political detente, extending it to the military sphere and broadening mutually advantageous cooperation among states belonging to different social systems. The visit, as Britain's the FINANCIAL TIMES pointed out, will provide "an opportunity to impart a fresh stimulus to East-West detente." Most commentaries--and this is natural--are published in West German newspapers. STUTTGARTER ZEITUNG, for example, notes the satisfaction with which the announcement of the Soviet leader's visit has been greeted in Bonn. "Good Relations to Everyone's Benefit"--beneath this headline UNSERE ZEIT carries a commentary which emphasizes that the upcoming visit is eliciting a "very positive response" in the FRG. In the opinion of the Directorate of the German Peace Union, L.I. Brezhnev's visit may lead to improved relations between the two countries and thereby give a fresh boost to the detente process.

"The foreign policy of the Soviet state has always been profoundly and sincerely peace-loving...." L.I. Brezhnev said. "We will do everything in our power to reduce the threat of war and to strengthen peaceful cooperation among states."

These words express the unbending will of the entire Soviet people.

Concrete Response Required

LD141527Y Moscow SELSKAYA ZHIZN in Russian 15 Apr 78 p 5 LD

[Article by Observer Sergey Losev: "Peace on the Scales of Detente"]

[Text] The recent trip by L.I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, to cities in Siberia and the Far East was regarded by the Soviet people as a manifestation of genuine concern for the further development of our motherland, the removal of the threat of a thermonuclear war and the strengthening of general peace. This trip, which was a striking expression of the growing unity of party and people, took place at a time when both to the west and to the east of our borders forces interested in the arms race and in reviving the cold war have become more active.

This historic move toward the relaxation of international tension, which took place in the first half of the seventies, primarily as a result of the efforts of the USSR and the socialist community countries, undoubtedly remains the chief factor in the present international situation. It is impossible, however, to turn a blind eye to the material preparations for war--the arms race being whipped up by the NATO powers continues at a relentless pace, consuming $350 billion annually.

It is for this reason, as Comrade L.I. Brezhnev stressed in his speech on the cruiser Admiral Senyavin, "notwithstanding the significance of various problems under modern conditions, there is no task more important than that of achieving real disarmament, a task which affects the destinies of all people. The main problem on the agenda of our life at the moment is that of halting the arms race and insuring progress toward alleviating and ultimately eradicating the threat of a thermonuclear disaster. This is the area in which the question of the future development of the international situation is being solved, and it is in this area that the fiercest struggle is currently developing."

By far the biggest part of the world arsenal of both nuclear and conventional weapons is in the hands of the United States and the Soviet Union, and the fate of detente currently depends on whether a new long-term Soviet-American agreement on strategic offensive arms limitation is signed.

As is known, the interim agreement on certain measures of strategic offensive arms limitation and the treaty on limiting missile defense systems and, likewise, the Vladivostok accord are based on strict observance of the cardinal principle of equality and identical security. The principle itself stems from the existence of military and strategic parity between the two powers.

The difficulties at the strategic offensive arms limitation talks in Geneva were created primarily by persistent U.S. attempts to obtain one-sided advantages to the detriment of Soviet security. Despite the futility of these plans to upset the established balance of forces, Washington has not yet abandoned them, as declarations by American statesmen show.

It would be difficult to explain in any other way the U.S. desire to impose unjustified limits on Soviet ballistic missiles, while at the same time giving the Pentagon a totally free hand to modernize and create new types of practically all strategic arms components. Speaking the other day at Wake Forest University, U.S. President J. Carter said that he "would not hesitate to adopt measures on the full-scale development and deployment" of the latest strategic arms systems, such as cruise missiles, MX intercontinental missiles and the Trident missile for new submarines. It is becoming increasingly clear that these dangerous steps to build up military potential are incompatible with Washington's officially proclaimed task of "insuring the stability of relations between the United States and the Soviet Union in the nuclear sphere."

Some leading figures in the U.S. administration, wishing to pressure our country, are seeking to link progress at the strategic offensive arms limitation talks to the USSR's "behavior" in other irrevlevant questions and are even displaying a tendency to make the fate of the agreement dependent on events, say, in Africa.

However, the United States needs a long-term agreement no less than the Soviet Union.

In order to avoid missing completely the opportunity of concluding a new strategic offensive arms limitation agreement, the United States now has to respond with real steps to remove the barriers erected on the path to the fruitful completion of the talks through no fault of the Soviet Union.

As L.I. Brezhnev stressed: "We do not demand that the agreement give us any advantages at the other side's expense, and we expect exactly the same approach from the other side. There can be no other solution."

The people can clearly distinguish between a genuine quest for mutually acceptable agreements and political maneuvers. Recently, the leaders of certain West European NATO countries have been praising the U.S. President's decision to postpone the production and deployment of the neutron weapon as a "positive step" and are even demanding some "reciprocal concessions" from the Soviet Union at the talks in Vienna and Geneva.

The decision was, however, more of a forced political maneuver to repel the wave of protests against production of this type of nuclear weapon, which its creators cynically call "the ideal way of killing people in densely populated Europe." The U.S. President's postponement decision was accompanied by a direction to the Pentagon to begin modernizing the nuclear warhead for the Lance missile and 8-inch artillery systems for subsequent use with the neutron weapon. As Congressman J. Conyers pointed out, the White House's ambiguous position enables it to return at any moment to the question of producing the neutron weapon, which will be improved by the Pentagon in the meantime.

H. Scoville, Secretary of the American Association of Arms Control Supporters, pointed to the dubious nature of Washington's use of the neutron weapon as a "trump card" to pressure the USSR at the arms limitation talks. It is time we realized, he said, that we cannot talk with the Russians from a "position of strength", and we cannot dictate to them. The Soviet Union has made a clear proposal to the United States: to reach a mutual understanding not to produce, stockpile, or deploy the neutron weapon anywhere. The interests of peace and security demand that Washington respond clearly and concretely to this constructive initiative.

In 1948, when the mass movement of peace supporters began, its leader, Frederic Joliot-Curie, said: Every one of the millions of people who are threatened by war must realize that the problem of war and peace is his personal problem that it affects him directly and that he cannot avoid it.

The struggle against the neutron bomb and for real disarmament is becoming more and more massive. And this breeds optimism and faith in the future.

U.S.-ROMANIAN COMMUNIQUE ISSUED AFTER CEAUSESCU VISIT

LD181634Y Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1559 GMT 18 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Washington, 18 April, TASS--A joint communique has been published here on the talks held between U.S. President J. Carter and President of the Socialist Republic of Romania N. Ceausescu. It says that the two sides have discussed relations between the United States and Romania and possibilities for their further development.

A joint U.S.-Romanian declaration has also been published. It notes "the considerable development of political, economic, scientific, cultural and other relations between the two countries over the past few years," and expresses "determination to take further measures to expand bilateral relations and cooperation." In particular, the sides declare their intention "to help in the implementation of joint programs" in third countries. The sides reached an agreement on the need "to assist the efforts aimed at achieving a just, all-embracing and firm settlement in the Near East on the basis of the withdrawal of Israel from all territories occupied as a result of the 1967 war and of respect for the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people, as well as insuring indepndence, territorial integrity and security of all states in that area. In this connection, they favor talks among all the interested sides, with the appropriate representation of the Palestinian people, with the aim of settling the Near East situation." Nevertheless, it is noted here that the U.S. stand on the issues of the Near East settlement, including the Palestinian problem, has in essence not undergone any serious changes.

KOBYSH, JAMES RESTON DISCUSS U.S.-USSR TIES, WORLD ISSUES

LD171345Y Moscow LITERATURNAYA GAZETA in Russian 12 Apr 78 p 14 LD

[Apparent text of conversation between Vitaliy Kobysh and James Reston: "No Time To Be Lost"]

[Text] Kobysh: Mr Reston, for many people in the United States as well as abroad you are both an oracle and a prophet. To start with, let me ask you what you consider to be the main fundamental problems of the present day.

[Reston] First and foremost insuring world peace and the people's security.

[Kobysh] I am glad to hear that. It seems that our conversation is beginning with agreement: In the Soviet Union as, of course, you are well aware, peace and the people's security are regarded as most paramount and urgent tasks. The policy of detente is a chief concern of the Soviet Government.

[Reston] That is probably true: Nevertheless, your words smack of rhetoric.

[Kobysh] If in your opinion what I said was "rhetoric" it was nevertheless in support of peace. I have read your articles for some decades and I know how informed you are. For that reason I will not enumerate everything the Soviet Union is doing to strengthen the peace and security of the people and to remove the threat of a nuclear missile war. I will cite merely one example. In his recent report in connection with the 60th anniversary of the October Revolution Leonid Ilich Brezhnev submitted a proposal on the simultaneous cessation of nuclear weapon production by all states and the gradual reduction of existing nuclear stockpiles. That is not a slogan but a policy. I think that if the same kind of "rhetoric" was forthcoming from the other side the world would be different: You would feel easier about the future of your grandchildren and I about my children.

[Reston] Good proposals are also submitted from our side. But, first, the proposals which seem good to you often do not suit us, and vice versa. And, second, submitting proposals, even if they suit both sides, is still not everything. The question is how to implement them.

[Kobysh] There are probably no universal formulas for implementing even the best plans and programs except, perhaps, one--the building of trust among peoples and mutual understanding among governments.

[Reston] I am prepared to agree with that although, I am afraid, you are lapsing back into rhetoric. Who objects to trust and mutual understanding? I repeat, I am a supporter of more specific formulas.

[Kobysh] Good let us turn to the facts. You say that nobody objects to trust and mutual understanding. Recently I was present during talks held in Congress by a USSR Supreme Soviet delegation and I witnessed how some senators and members of the House of Representatives deliberately sidetracked the discussion and raised provocative questions that constituted direct interference in our internal affairs. It did seem that they were supporters of building trust and mutual understanding.

[Reston] Do you have in mind the question of civil rights and freedoms?

[Kobysh] No, I am speaking of the provocations passed off as concern for "civil rights and freedoms."

[Reston] You see, we differ already. From your viewpoint they were provocations, but I think that the senators and members of the House of Representatives raised questions which deeply concern the American people and especially the voters they represent in Congress.

[Kobysh] I lived for some years in your country and met Americans from various sections of the population so I have an idea of what concerns most of them. The majority, as you are also very well aware, want least of all for some congressmen to boost themselves to the detriment of Soviet-American relations. [paragraph continues]

But I recall the same conversations in Congress 4 years ago when a USSR Supreme Soviet delegation came to the United States for the first time. It is manifestly obvious that the very same people have poisoned the atmosphere both then and now. But now they are doing it with even greater ferocity than before. How do you account for that?

[Reston] I do not know whether it can be called "ferocity": Much has changed in our country compared with 4 years ago. To begin with, at that time there was a certain euphoria among us over the policy of detente, and many people fell prey to extreme illusions. When those illusions dispersed they fell into equally extreme pessimism, which possibly engendered the mood which you described as "ferocity." Also, do not forget that we are still experiencing the shock of Vietnam and the wounds inflicted on the national pride of the United States are far from healed. Moreover, the country experienced the jolt of Watergate, and so far has been unable to recover from it. It is for this reason that questions of human rights and civil freedoms are extremely acute for Americans. Another consequence of the Watergate explosion is the immeasurably enhanced role of Congress. Some senators and members of the House of Representatives take pleasure in demonstrating their influence.

[Kobysh] This seems odd. You are free to regard this as "the growing role of Congress," but something comes to the mind of many people: Why indeed should the redistribution of power in the United States--a matter which is, after all, purely internal and American--interfere with the solution of important international problems?

One gets the impression that some people in the United States begin with the premise that the whole world should fall in step with the United States--do you agree that this is some kind of imperial idea, or not? Other countries have their own problems, too. If they begin to link their solution with the main questions of international life, these questions might never be resolved.

[Reston] This sounds logical, but our actions are not simply determined by logic, they are often dictated by emotion. When some American politicians raise the question of the violation of civil rights and freedoms in the Soviet Union and other socialist countries they are motivated by emotion. And it seems to me that this is more understandable because, as I have already said, after Vietnam and Watergate this problem was seen particularly acutely in the United States and there is a trend toward moral self-purification.

[Kobysh] I will not pass judgement on the trend toward "moral self-purification," but as for the political leaders' "emotions" you mention, permit me to doubt their sincerity. For some mysterious reason they are very concerned by the problem of "human rights" in other countries, but for some reason they are not interested in the situation in the United States. Take the case of the "Wilmington 10," which is now known throughout the world.

[Reston] Well, you cannot say that this affair and other cases are not discussed in our country.

[Kobysh] I am not saying they are not discussed. The fact remains, however, that the "Wilmington 10" are guilty of nothing, they are still held behind bars, and certain of your "truth-lovers" keep quiet about it, preferring to discuss the situation in other countries.

[Reston] As for the "Wilmington 10" and similar cases, it is up to the legal authorities to look into them, but nobody is forbidden to express an opinion on any subject, including the problems of Soviet life.

[Kobysh] Agreed, when it is a question of expressing opinions, but this is another matter. Certain responsible American figures are not simply expressing opinions, they are deliberately poisoning the atmosphere and hindering the establishment of mutual understanding between our countries.

[Reston] But then we can describe any criticism of the United States coming from the Soviet Union in exactly the same way.

[Kobysh] I do not think you will find any example to confirm that our criticism of the United States hinders the improvement of Soviet-American relations. And you certainly cannot accuse us of trying to impose our will. But some people in the United States are disposed to do so. Until you resolve such and such a problem, they tell us, we will not talk with you. By that logic, we could also say: Until you free the "Wilmington 10" or, say, until you give work to your 10 million unemployed, we will not sign any agreements with you, such as SALT II. How would that be received in your country?

[Reston] I see no attempt to dictate on the part of our congressmen, and I do not think it is worth your dramatizing their criticism of the Soviet Union. It is not a question of those congressmen, but of the fact that in relatively broad circles of the American population there is increasing concern with the Soviet Union's rapidly increasing military potential.

[Kobysh] I know a broad campaign has been launched in the United States to frighten Americans with a Soviet "military threat." This is nothing new, we are even used to it, to some extent. Moreover, it is carried out primarily by those who are opposed to the establishment of mutual understanding between our countries. Unfortunately, very responsible American figures are involved in that campaign.

[Reston] I only mentioned that because I believe the signing of the new SALT II agreement which you just mentioned to be a task of the utmost importance. By the way, what do you think, will it ultimately be signed?

[Kobysh] Your question could be answered much more definitely if it only depended on the Soviet side. Alas, everything indicates that the American side is putting obstacles in the path of this agreement. But let me ask you a question: Do you admit the possibility that such an agreement might not be signed?

[Reston] No, I think it will be signed one way or the other. Otherwise everything in the world would be very bad, it would be bad for everyone--for you, for us, and for all the rest.

[Kobysh] I think so, too. In preparing for our talk, I read through some of your articles. On 3 April 1973 you wrote with considerable concern that the world spends $220 billion on arms every year. It has been 5 years since then--only 5 years--and this spending now exceeds $350 billion.

[Reston] What madness! In a world where there are so many hungry people, gigantic resources are cast to the wind.

[Kobysh] I am afraid that it is not only nonproductive expenditure that is increasing, but also the dangers connected with the arms race, particularly the proliferation of nuclear weapons. Even the South African racists are hankering for them now.

[Reston] Yes, there is evidence of that. It is really a very serious matter and a real threat. According to calculations by our scientists, by the end of this century, that is, relatively soon, 35 countries will possess nuclear weapons, if something radical is not done.

[Kobysh] Planet earth is becoming a not very comfortable place to live.

[Reston] Yes, especially if you think that one fine day these weapons might fall into the hands of terrorists.

[Kobysh] Especially when certain regimes, such as South Africa, are close to terrorists in many respects and also demonstrate irresponsibility.

[Reston] Time, in a word, is pressing.

[Kobysh] It is especially annoying since it is being wasted. If I am not mistaken, you have written that in over a year the new U.S. administration has not only failed to make any progress on the question of Soviet-American relations but has caused setbacks in some areas. You said that valuable time has been spent on various unproductive quests, including the "definition of priorities and, I fear, somewhat insincere verbal exercises concerning "human rights" and so forth. Meanwhile, the neutron bomb has become a reality, the Near East situation has deteriorated and southern Africa has turned into a Bickford fuse next to some dynamite.

[Reston] I am particularly concerned about southern Africa. On the one hand, immediate measures should be adopted to normalize the situation: on the other hand, it is incumbent on all interested sides to display great circumspection. Otherwise there may be a big conflagration there.

[Kobysh] Don't you think we are ending the conversation on a rather pessimistic note?

[Reston] No, I don't think so. Pessimism and a realistic view of things are not the same. Walter Lippman, whom I consider my mentor, said that temporary disagreements and contradictions should never cloud the horizon. I think that the horizon of relations between the United States and the USSR, however distant it might be today, is clear. In today's explosive and problem-filled world we simply cannot allow ourselves the luxury of not reaching an understanding of the main issues, above all on taming the nuclear genie, because earth's very existence, let alone peace on earth, depends on such an understanding. I am sure that we will reach an understanding sooner or later.

[Kobysh] The sooner the better--not later.

[Reston] I agree. From time to time I tell my assistant, the young man who is present at this conversation: "John, you are lucky, you were born at the right time. I am sure that in your age there will not be the terrible wars which befell the lot of my generation."

[Kobysh] I would very much like your prophesy to come true. So, we began on a note of agreement and we end in the same way, by agreeing that there is no time to lose. That's something, anyway.

Reston Comments Criticized

LD1714037 Moscow LITERATURNAYA GAZETA in Russian 12 Apr 78 p 14 LD

[Vitaliy Kobysh "commentary written in Moscow"]

[Text] You don't shake your fists after a fight. But nonetheless I want to make some observations.

In fact there was no "fight"--that was not what Reston and I met for. Nor did we want the dialog to turn into a collection of monologues. We spoke different languages, sometimes attaching different significance to the same concepts, and we did not agree with each other. But there was interest and respect for each other's arguments. Two apparently mutually exclusive things emerged: mutual understanding on several important problems and sharp disagreements separating us from such people as Reston, their prejudice and often hostility toward our policy.

And Reston, as readers will have convinced themselves, is guilty of anti-Soviet cliches and tends to distort the facts. For instance, he wants to attach the label of "rhetoric" to the Soviet Union's policy directed toward strengthening peace and the security of people, toward detente. Although well aware that our country is doing everything to remove the risk of a new war, he still speaks of the "Soviet threat," and in his commentaries, which are disseminated widely in the West, he frightens people with "the Soviet Union's rapidly growing military potential." This at a time when the United States is increasing military preparations, delaying the Strategic Arms Limitation Talks, and preparing to produce new means of annihilation, which virtually erase the distinction between conventional and nuclear weapons; when certain U.S. circles are openly being provocative, inciting ordinary people's chauvinism, and sowing hatred toward socialism and the Soviet Union; when the policy of U.S. ruling circles leads not only to an increase in international tension, but even to explosions like those in the Horn of Africa or southern Lebanon; when the U.S. President, although he said in his recent Wake Forest speech that his country's "main concern" is to avert nuclear war, at the same time announced, referring to that same "Soviet threat," the intention of strengthening American military might and bringing new weapons systems into production.

Nor could Reston refrain from incantations steeped in cynicism and hipocrisy on "rights and freedoms." For him, among the first in the United States to admit that American troops went into Vietnam "by mistake," and killed many thousands of people "through a misunderstanding," to speak of "violations of citizens' rights and freedoms" in the Soviet Union and other socialist countries? He has also written more than once about how his country not only gave birth to the dictatorial regimes in Chile, Paraguay, South Korea and so forth, but supports them with military strength and economic assistance, whereas without U.S. aid these regimes would not last a day.

In his commentaries he has more than once touched on what it happening in the United States itself, where the punitive apparatus persecutes millions of people who are guilty of nothing, and where dissidents are dealt with not as in the prisons of Chile or Paraguay, but still sufficiently energetically and mercilessly.

He is also aware that in the United States, the richest country in the capitalist world, about 40 million Americans live in poverty, which is even recognized by the authorities; that in recent years the army of unemployed has rarely fallen below 10 million; and that there are not many places on earth where people with nonwhite skins are so mocked.

If Reston knows all this and much more that he is not very keen on writing about in his columns, then why does he say what he said in our talk? The explanation is not simple, but there is one. Reston is shrewder, better educated and more talented than many of his colleagues. But for all that he is of one flesh with his society and his socio-political system and defends it somehow or other with every line he writes.

DESPITE BAN ON INTELLIGENCE TYPES PEACE CORPS DISCREDITED

LD1811522 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 16 Apr 78 Morning Edition p 3 LD

[V. Kondrashov article: "Ignoble Task"]

[Text] A curious news item has circulated in Western newspapers: The notorious U.S. "Peace Corps" has elaborated new rules, a sort of charter for this organization which preaches the so-called American way of life throughout the world. Observant journalists have noticed first of all the charter's clause proclaiming that admission to the Peace Corps is closed to the people who are or have been in the service of the U.S. intelligence services.

Why is such emphasis being placed on precisely this point? AP writes frankly that the new rules are aimed at removing any grounds for "accusing the Peace Corps of serving as a cover for the U.S. Government's intelligence activity."

The leaders of the Peace Corps and its patrons in Washington have assumed a hard and ignoble task in attempting to place their creation outside any "unworthy suspicions." This unrespected organization has been in existence for 17 years, and for 17 years accusations against it have not ceased: There are more than enough facts, which betray Peace Corps guilt with respect to espionage, subversive activity and the sowing of discord and disputes among people.

Peace Corps "volunteers" were shamefully expelled from some countries for espionage and ignominiously kicked out of others for drug trafficking and other highly unseemly business. The Peace Corps has definitively compromised itself as an agent of U.S. imperialist circles.

Now the Peace Corps wants to purge itself of the filth. We are altruists and disinterested people, it is saying, and we will not allow spies and saboteurs into our midst. But are these words worth much? After all, even before the Peace Corps was not stinting in promises that the "volunteers" included no spies or provocateurs. But time has shown that these incantations are quite decidedly at odds with their deeds.

And people judge by deeds....

MOSCOW SOIREE MARKS BIRTHDAY OF CANTON UPRISING LEADER

OW1718577Y Moscow in Mandarin to China 1230 GMT 15 Apr 78 OW

[Excerpts] On 14 April the Union of Soviet Societies for Friendship and Cultural Relations With Foreign Countries and the Soviet-Chinese Friendship Society held a soiree at the House of Friendship with people of all countries in Moscow to commemorate the 80th birthday of Chang Tai-lai, a noted CCP activist. Members of the Soviet-Chinese Friendship Society, Soviet sinologists and representatives of the people of Moscow attended the soiree. Also present were Chen Hsien-yu, first secretary of the Chinese Embassy in the Soviet Union, and other embassy personnel. Comrade (Volshenkov), a Soviet scholar and director of the culture office of the Far East Research Institute of the Soviet Academy of Sciences, opened the soiree. Professor (Chulyev), a Soviet scholar and doctor of history and member of the Central Council of the Soviet-Chinese Friendship Society, reported on the activities of the noted Chinese communist.

Comrade (Chulyev) said: In [words indistinct] the revolutionary history of the Chinese people, the name of Chang Tai-lai is prominent. Chang Tai-lai's life was short; he only lived for 29 years. His revolutionary activities lasted only for 8 years, from the 4 May revolution in 1919 to 12 December 1927 when he heroically sacrificed his life [words indistinct]. But in these 8 years, he left an impressive mark on the revolutionary history of China. After joining the CCP, Chang Tai-lai dedicated himself fully to the work of the party. In 1920, a representative of the Chinese communists, he attended the Third Congress of the Comintern. From 1925 to 1927, as the revolution progressed, Chang Tai-lai plunged into the center of the revolutionary cause and assumed a post with important responsibilities. At that time, he was a secretary of the CYL, a member of the CCP Central Committee and an alternate member of the CCP Central Committee Politburo.

Here we would like to add: The revolutionary spirit of Chang Tai-lai was recognized both inside and outside the party. During the time when revolutionary life was unusually tortuous and following Chiang Kai-shek's counterrevolutionary coup d'etat, the Chinese revolution faced a critical moment. At that time, the party entrusted Chang Tai-lai with a complex and important task, and this assignment was by no means accidental. He was appointed secretary of the Kwangtung Provincial CCP Committee. He made preparations for an armed uprising in Canton.

Comrade (Chulyev) said: [words indistinct] Chang Tai-lai's Canton uprising preparatory meeting in December 1927 was his last revolutionary activity. According to the recollections of Chang Tai-lai's comrades-in-arms and CCP activities, his revolutionary experiences and his role in working for the socialist cause were both of great importance.

Comrade (Chulyev) concluded: In commemorating Chang Tai-lai and other heroes of the Canton commune, we extend to the Chinese people our sincere and friendly sentiments. This soiree commemorating the 80th birthday of Chang Tai-lai, an outstanding Chinese communist and internationalist, is proof of this.

MONGOLIAN RADIO DENOUNCES PEKING'S 'MAOIST COURSE'

LD181440Y Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1325 GMT 18 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Ulaanbaatar, 18 April. TASS--Mongolian Radio has broadcast a commentary which says that the new Peking leadership has completely adopted the antisocialist course of militarizing China, begun by Mao Tse-tung. Even during the lifetime of the former "great helmsman," the radio notes more than 40 percent of the annual budget was devoted to military purposes. However, this amount seemed insignificant to the leadership which succeeded Mao Tse-tung and the "gang of four." They decided on a general increase in the Mao Tse-tung policy of total militarization of the country. Mao's successors quickly sent their emissaries to the largest capitalist countries to discuss the purchase of the latest weapons and technology for their production.

Imperialist circles are pleased to participate in Peking's military preparations. The arms race has received a new impetus in China itself. The present Chinese leadership has openly declared that it would like to obtain the latest and most barbaric form of nuclear weapons--the neutron bomb.

A challenge to these military preparations is quite justified. Perhaps somebody is threatening China? According to statements made in Peking, the alleged threat comes from the Soviet Union. However, the facts completely refute these absurd assertions. The Soviet Union has never threatened a single country, including the PRC. Moreover, in recent years the USSR has frequently presented extremely clear proposals to exclude any possibility of armed conflict between the Soviet Union and China and to normalize bilateral relations.

However, the Chinese side has rejected these proposals every time. It is obvious that Peking's assertions about a mythical "Soviet threat" were necessary to conceal the aggressiveness of their own aspirations and great Han-chauvinist plans. In the first place, these plans threaten the states which border on China, including People's Mongolia. As was noted in the 12 April MPR Government message to the PRC Government, the concentration of Chinese troops and the construction of strategic military sites continues in the vicinity of Mongolia's state borders. All kinds of diversionary sallies against the MPR are also being organized.

History provides no basis for Peking's treatment of socialist Mongolia in this manner. Connected by bonds of fraternal friendship and cooperation with the USSR and other socialist countries, the MPR looks confidently to its future.

PRC UN DELEGATE CITES SOVIET 'EXPANSION' IN AFRICA

LD181400Y Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1300 GMT 18 Apr 78 LD

["Peking's Hypocritical Position"--TASS headline]

[Text] New York--Preparations are underway at the United Nations for a special UN session on Namibia which will take place between 24 April and 3 May this year. An absolute majority of the UN member countries, including the USSR and other socialist states, resolutely demand that freedom and independence be granted to Namibia without delay. Delegates of independent African countries to the United Nations praise the Soviet Union's aid to peoples who struggle for freedom and independence, against colonial and racial oppression. "The Soviet Government and the Soviet people consistently and invariably support the African people's liberation struggle," said L. Harriman, representative of the special UN Anti-apartheid Committee and permanent representative of Nigeria.

The fact that USSR policy is receiving such praise is clearly not pleasing the Maoists. Employing the basest slander and fabrication, the Chinese delegate to the UN Decolonization Committee discussing the Namibian issue, attempted to distort the USSR policy and accuse the USSR of "expansionist activities in southern Africa." At the same time, the Maoist did not even mention the much suffering people of Namibia who, arms in hand, are struggling for freedom, against the forces of international imperialism. M.A. Kharlamov, the USSR representative, resolutely rejected the attempts to defame the Soviet policy. He stressed that China pays lip service to the support of the national-liberation movements, while actually it is an ally of colonizers, racists and imperialists. Peking's actions, he said, only hamper a just solution to the Namibian problem and the liberation of that country from the yoke of colonizers and imperialists. One should not feign friendship for national-liberation movements, pointed out the Soviet representative, and at the same time further the imperialist oppression of the Namibian people.

WESTERN ARMS ENCOURAGE PRC'S EXPANSION IN ASIA

LD151252V Moscow TASS in English 1207 GMT 15 Apr 78 LD

["Shortsighted Policy"--TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, April 15, TASS--TASS news analyst Sergey Stoklitskiy writes: The course of the present Peking leadership for the country's militarization and preparing military adventures meets, judging by many facts, with "understanding" from the military economic circles of the West. And not just "understanding" but also active support. As the British DAILY TELEGRAPH reported, the talks which opened in London between the Pentagon chief Harold Brown and leading members of the British Cabinet are to cover in particular the question of the sale to Peking of the modern British vertical take-off fighter plane Harrier. Hoping to derive good profits, the West European military-industrial complex has kindly opened its arsenals to Peking. Britain is also planning to supply China in the near future with several warships. The FRG's major Messerschmitt-Belkow-Blohm military concern showed Chinese "businessmen" the other day anti-tank rocket installations. Close contacts have been lately established between clients from the PRC and the French Framatom firm specializing in the manufacture of nuclear reactors. In doing so, representatives of West European military industrial circles are trying to picture military cooperation with Peking as if the point at issue were not a dangerous build-up of the military potential of the world's most populous power, but some innocent commercial contracts. Such illusions are, however, very dangerous. They shall not divert attention from the expansionist ambitions of Mao's successors, for whom a world nuclear war is just a "paper tiger". Thus, contrary to mass protests of the population of Western Europe against the deployment in the continent of such a sinister mass destruction weapon as the neutron bomb, Peking continues stubbornly alleging that a renunciation of it would be simply an act of "madness" for the West.

In its militaristic ardour, Peking is calling upon West European states and consequently their tax-payers, to spare no funds on the arms race in the name, of course, of struggle against the notorious "Soviet threat." Such instigatory policies are a source of concern for realistically minded people, including those in the West. An expansion of military-political cooperation with China is a very risky thing for the European, the Italian REPUBLICA noted the other day. And there are good reasons for such a statement as nobody in Western Europe can give guarantees that the policy of connivance with Peking's militant expansionism will not have a baneful effect on China's weakest neighbours and will not boomerang against the interests of those countries and peoples, whose borders are not in direct proximity to China.

GIEREK'S ACTIVITIES, MEETINGS DURING MOSCOW VISIT NOTED

Visits Exhibition

LD182313Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1600 GMT 18 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Today Edward Gierek visited the USSR exhibition of national economic achievements. He visited the space and radio electronics pavilions, and was acquainted with the exhibition of scientific and technical creative work by young people devoted to the 60th anniversary of the Leninist Komsomol and the 18th Komsomol Congress.

Comrade Gierek looked around the Polish section of the exhibition of scientific and technical creative work by young people with great interest.

Meets With Brezhnev

LD181308Y Moscow TASS in English 1305 GMT 18 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, April 18, TASS--There was a meeting here today between general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, President of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet Leonid Brezhnev and First Secretary of the Central Committee of the Polish United Workers' Party Edward Gierek, who had arrived in Moscow on a friendly visit.

Comrades Leonid Brezhnev and Edward Gierek exchanged information on the implementation of the decisions of the 25th CPSU Congress and the Seventh Congress of the Polish United Workers' Party. They noted with satisfaction that as a result of the consistent internationalist policy of both fraternal parties, friendship of the Soviet and Polish peoples is strengthening and effectivity of their cooperation in all spheres of economic, political and cultural life is increasing.

It was pointed, specifically, to the successful implementation of agreements on joint solution of a number of problems in heavy machine-building, energetics, transports, in the production of farm machinery and other spheres of the national economy.

When questions of international policy were discussed, Leonid Brezhnev and Edward Gierek emphasized the need to do everything to ensure man's loftiest right, the right to peaceful life. They expressed concern with the continued arms race that is being stepping up by the United States and some of their NATO allies. They emphasized that it is specific measures aimed at lessening of the nuclear threat, at disarmament, and not general calls for peace that are important in the present-day conditions. Loyal to the principles of their peaceful foreign policy, the Soviet Union and Poland are ready to take such measures together with other states.

The leaders of the two fraternal parties exchanged opinions about the situation in the international communist and working class movement. They expressed the invariable readiness of the CPSU and the Polish United Workers' Party to continue doing everything to promote the strengthening of its cohesion in the struggle for common goals.

Leonid Brezhnev's and Edward Gierek's meeting passed in the spirit of friendship, cordiality and mutual understanding. [Moscow Domestic Service in Russian at 1245 GMT on 18 Apr repeats the above item and then adds the following:

"Rusakov, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, Blatov, aide to the CPSU Central Committee general secretary; Waszczuk, director of Chancery of the Secretariat of the PZPR Central Committee; took part in the talks"]

Speeches at Award Ceremony

LD181900Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1700 GMT 18 Apr 78 LD

[Text] On 18 April in the Kremlin, Comrade Leonid Ilich Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, awarded the Order of the October Revolution to Comrade Edward Gierek, first secretary of the PZPR Central Committee.

During the award presentation the following were present: members of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo Grishin, Gromyko, Kosygin, Kulakov, Suslov, Ustinov; candidate members of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo Demichev, Ponomarev, Solomentsev, Chernenko; secretaries of the CPSU Central Committee Kapitonov, Dolgikh, Zimyanin, Ryabov, Rusakov and other officials.

Polish Ambassador Olszewski was also present in the hall.

During the solemn award presentation ceremony, speeches were delivered by Comrades Brezhnev and Gierek.

In his speech Leonid Ilich Brezhnev said: [announcer-read] Dear Comrades, We have gathered today in order to present the Order of the October Revolution to Edward Gierek, first secretary of the PZPR Central Committee. Our esteemed guest has earned this lofty Soviet award in connection with his 65th birthday, for his great contribution to the cause of strengthening peace and socialism, and for his outstanding role in the development of fraternal friendship and cooperation between the peoples of the Soviet Union and Poland.

Comrade Gierek, you are well known in the Soviet Union as a stanch fighter for the triumph of socialist ideas on Polish soil, as a prominet leader of the international communist and workers movement and as a true friend of our country. Because of all this you have earned the Soviet people's prestige and sincere understanding.

The Polish people are marking an important event in their history this year. Sixty years ago the Great October Socialist Revolution paved the way for the Polish people toward the revival of their national statehood. The decree which granted independence to Poland was signed by Vladimir Ilich Lenin. Defending the Polish people's right to self-determination, the leader of the proletarian revolution was at the same time a passionate champion of the closest possible class alliance of Polish and Russian workers.

This alliance has long since become a reality. It was tested in the mortal combat with fascism. It helps our two fraternal peoples to build a new society, to guard and multiply the gains of the revolution and to defend peace on earth.

The Soviet people are following with a feeling of comradely solidarity the dynamic development of friendly Poland, and the efforts of the communists and working people who are implementing the program of building advanced socialism. We know that this is not a simple task and that it demands the solution of great and at times difficult problems. However, there is no doubt that the working class and the working people of Poland will successfully tackle this historic cause and will transform their homeland into a flourishing socialist state.

Dear Comrade Gierek, in presenting you with the Order of the October Revolution I want to wish you with all my heart good health and great success in your work for the good of the Polish people in the name of further strengthening the friendship of our parties and countries.

A speech was then made by Comrade Gierek. He said: [announcer-read] Dear Comrade Brezhnev, esteemed Soviet comrades and friends: I am accepting the Order of October Revolution, which was awarded to me by the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, with a feeling of profound emotion. For me personally, this is a great honor and a reason for profound satisfaction. This high distinction signifies the recognition of the efforts of our entire party, and its contribution to the cause of building a socialist world, which was initiated by the Great October Socialist Revolution.

This important and historic event particularly affected the destiny of the Polish people. The victory of the Russian proletariat paved the way for Poland toward the restoration of independence, for which many generations of Polish people had been fighting with self-denial.

The Polish people will always remember that Vladimir Ilich Lenin and the Bolshevik party were ardent champions of their freedom. The party of the Bolsheviks has inscribed on its banners the right of people to self-determination. Thousands of Polish workers and peasants, soldiers and students embarked on the struggle against tsarism together with the Russian people. They fought at the barricades of the revolution. They defended the young Soviet Republic. They were guided in this struggle by the unswerving belief in the righteousness of the workers cause, the bright ideas of socialism and a profound conviction that only thus could they best serve their own people as well.

History has entirely confirmed the indissoluble ties between internationalism and patriotism. It confirmed this both 60 years ago, when Soviet power annulled treaties on the division of Poland, and a quarter of a century later, during the period of the joint liberation wars against the Hitlerite fascism. The blood shed by the Soviet people on Polish soil in the struggle for our and your freedom has strengthened the cordial ties between the two fraternal peoples for all time.

Today our parties and our peoples are united by common ideas and aims, by close cooperation in many fields, by rich fruits of mutual friendship and by ever closer contacts. The very same ideals are lighting the road for us. We are marching toward one aim. The struggle also continues today--the struggle for the good and happiness of our peoples, for peace and the security of all mankind, for the triumph of justice and democracy, for freedom and progress and for the triumph of the ideas of Great October which we have transformed in our countries into real socialism.

Thanks to the Leninist policy of the CPSU and your tireless efforts, Dear Leonid Ilich, thanks to the unity of all socialist countries, we are achieving more and more successes in this struggle. It is precisely our movement and it is precisely our socialist system which is a heritage of the October Revolution, which in the fullest possible and most consistent manner implement human rights and defend the highest right--the right to a peaceful life.

As a Pole, a communist and one of working class origin, to whose service I am devoting all my efforts, I am profoundly proud of this award and I am grateful to you with all my heart, esteemed comrades.

The speeches by Comrade Brezhnev and Gierek were heard with great attention and welcomed with prolonged applause.

The party and state leaders of the Soviet Union have cordially congratulated Comrade Gierek on the high award of the Soviet Union and wished him further successes in the great and fruitful activity in the name of building advanced socialism in the Polish People's Republic and for the good of peace throughout the world.

Toasts Exchanged At Dinner

LD181912Y Moscow TASS in English 1848 GMT 18 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, April 18, TASS--The Central Committee of the CPSU has given a dinner today on the occasion of the short friendly visit to the USSR of First Secretary of the Polish United Workers' Party Central Committee Edward Gierek. Present at the dinner were members and candidate members of the Politbureau of the CPSU CC, secretaries of the CPSU CC.

During the dinner, Leonid Brezhnev and Edward Gierek exchanged friendly toasts.

Gierek Departs From Moscow

LD190650Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0730 GMT 19 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Edward Gierek, first secretary of the Central Committee of the Polish United Workers' Party, left Moscow for home today. He was in the Soviet capital on a short friendly visit.

At the airport Gierek was seen off by Leonid Ilich Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium; Rusakov, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee; Blatov, member of the Central Auditing Commission of the CPSU and assistant to the general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee; Shakhnazarov, deputy head of a department of the CPSU Central Committee; Gulakov, first deputy minister of civil aviation; and other officials.

Among those seeing him off was Olszewski, Polish ambassador to the USSR.

NOVIKOV LEADS DELEGATION TO TALKS IN PRAGUE

LD172354Y Moscow in Czech and Slovak to Czechoslovakia 1600 GMT 17 Apr 78 LD

[Text] A Soviet Government delegation headed by Vladimir Novikov, deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers, left Moscow for Prague by air today. The delegation is to take part in talks on long-term prospects for economic cooperation with Czechoslovakia. Among other things, the delegation will make an assessment of the construction of two nuclear power stations which receive supplies of equipment from the USSR. The first of these two nuclear power stations will start generating electricity in the fall.

During the talks, cooperation between the two countries in the production of equipment for nuclear power stations will be assessed. Czechoslovakia already exports various items to other CEMA member countries.

FIGURES ON GROWTH OF AGRICULTURE IN CEMA CITED

LD141516Y Moscow TASS in English 1439 GMT 14 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, April 14 TASS--The gross agricultural output of the CMEA member countries grew three percent last year, PRAVDA said today. The year of 1977, like the preceding year, was unfavourable as regards weather conditions for agriculture in some countries, which had a negative effect on the output of some kinds of products. But it became possible to lessen in a large measure the effect of these factors due to the measures for increasing the level of mechanisation, chemisation and land improvement.

The average annual output of farm products grew seven percent during the first two years of the current five-year period compared with the previous five year period (1971-75). Thus, the average annual output of grain and leguminous crops reached 289 million tons, which is 33 million tons up on this figure in the past five year plan period. The CMEA member countries produced in 1977 a total of 25 million tons of meat, 131 million tons of milk and 86,000 million eggs.

Tangible successes have been achieved by the working people of Hungary, where agricultural output increased by more than 10 percent in a year. In Mongolia, 7.2 million heads of young steers have been bred, 117.6 thousand hectares of virgin lands have been brought under plough, the gross output of grain crops grew 8.7 percent, potatoes--22.2, fodder crops--8.5 percent. In Poland the number of cattle increased by 12.7 percent.

In spite of the unfavourable weather conditions, as increase in agricultural output worth 3,500 million roubles has been achieved in the USSR. A bumper crop of cotton has been harvested--8.76 million tons. Meat output grew nine percent, milk--six, eggs--eight, and wool--five percent. The volume of agricultural output grew 7.9 in Czechosolvakia. The material and technical base of agriculture has been strengthened. 459 thousand tractors and 116 thousand grain harvesting combines have been supplied to agriculture in the CMEA member countries.

PRAVDA REPORTS ON JOINT CEMA CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS

LD1417557 Moscow TASS in English 1740 GMT 14 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Moscow April 14, TASS--The copper-and-molybdenum ore dressing complex Erdenet in Mongolia will be among the world's ten major enterprises of its kind. It is being built by the Mongolian People's Republic and the USSR. This is one of the joint construction projects of CMEA countries scheduled for the current five-year plan period (1976-80). Summing up the joint work in 1977, the newspaper PRAVDA points out today that the development of the Orenburg gas condensate deposit and the construction of the gas trunkline Soyuz (Orenburg-Western border of the USSR) were successfully continued through the joint efforts of Bulgaria, Hungary, the GDR, Poland, Romania, the USSR and Czechoslovakia. In 1977 the overall length of the welded pipeline became 2,547 kilometres. Through the gas trunkline which is to be brought into operation in 1978, the European member countries of the CMEA will annually receive 15.500 million cubic metres of gas.

The builders of a 750-kilovolt power transmission line Vinnitsa (USSR)-Albertirsa (Hungary) score a major success. This power transmission line, which is being built with the participation of Bulgaria, Hungary, the GDR, Poland, the USSR and Czechoslovakia, will treble the capacity of the united power grids of CMEA countries.

The construction of a pulp-and-paper complex in Braila (Romania) was started last year. It is being built through the efforts of the GDR, Poland, Romania, and Czechoslovakia. The third power generating unit was put into operation at the Nord atomic power station (GDR), which is being built with the technical assistance of the Soviet Union. Bulgaria, Hungary, and Czechoslovakia build and enlarge atomic power stations with the USSR's assistance.

Other big enterprises in CMEA member-countries were also built with the Soviet Union's assistance. Commissioned were the first section of the Katowice metallurgical complex in Poland, the sugar cane harvesters plant in Cuba, the Bobov Dol coal mine in Bulgaria, the oil processing plant in Szged and new bearings-manufacturing facilities in Hungary, a coke-furnace battery at the metallurgical works in Galatz, and an isoprene rubber plant in Romania.

BROWN DISCUSSES NEUTRON BOMB WITH EUROPEAN LEADERS

LD181218Y Moscow TASS in English 1151 GMT 18 Apr 78 LD

[Text] London, April 18, TASS--The Pentagon and the leadership of the NATO military bloc did not renounce the idea of launching the conveyer of neutron death. The United States Defence Secretary Harold Brown said at a press-conference here yesterday that the recent decision taken by the United States President to defer the manufacture of the neutron bomb left this question open. The Pentagon boss also announced plans for modernisation of the nuclear means the North Atlantic bloc is armed with. He confirmed that improved types of missiles would be able to carry neutron warheads.

The United States defence secretary on his tour of West European countries has already visited Norway, West Germany and Britain. Today he arrived in Denmark for a regular session of the NATO nuclear planning group. According to the West European press, the neutron bomb was the topic of all his talks with the defence ministers of other NATO member-countries. Brown's tour sparked off another wave of protests against the monstrous weapon. West European opinion categorically opposes its deployment on the territory of Western Europe.

Brown's tour is also connected with the Pentagon's general efforts for a further consolidation of the North Atlantic bloc.

Speaking in London, the United States defence secretary praised the military construction programme of Britain, which recently resolved to increase defence spending by three per cent annually.

Of late, the NATO leadership, inspired by calls from across the ocean, has been stepping up pressure on West European countries to make them increase their military appropriations. This was also the keynote of Brown's speech here calling for a still bigger effort to strengthen the military machine of the bloc.

NEUTRON BOMB TO BE DISCUSSED IN NATO NUCLEAR GROUP

LD171430Y Moscow TASS in English 1335 GMT 17 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, April 17 TASS--Washington's decision to put off the production of the neutron bomb did not alter the agenda of the regular session of the NATO Nuclear-Planning Group, which is to open on April 18. The defense ministers of the seven members of the North Atlantic bloc--the United States, the FRG, Britain, Greece, Belgium, Denmark and Italy--will discuss the problems of nuclear strategy, including those linked with the neutron bomb. The democratic press of the West European countries stresses that the bloc's leadership did not give up the idea of adding neutron bombs and shells to its nuclear stockpiles.

No matter how the events connected with the neutron bomb develop, the FRANCE PRESSE notes, the Nuclear Planning Group will take other steps to modernize the bloc's nuclear arsenal. Referring to NATO sources, the agency reports that these measures include modernisation of some of the seven thousand nuclear warheads possessed by the NATO armed forces in Western Europe. The point in question is to replace them by other warheads with a higher degree to target hitting accuracy.

The concrete programme of NATO's nuclear strategy until 1984, drawn up at the session, will be submitted for the consideration of the defence ministers of all the bloc, who will meet on May 18-19.

Detachments of the Danish police are arriving in Frederikshavn simultaneously with the NATO ministers and generals. They are "getting ready" for the coming mass demonstration of protest against the arms race, for the complete banning of the neutron bomb.

The demonstration will be held in the town while the session of the Nuclear-Planning Group is in progress on the initiative of the committee for cooperation in the strengthening of peace and security.

NATO NUCLEAR PLANNING GROUP MEETS IN DENMARK

LD181828Y Moscow TASS in English 1710 GMT 18 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Frederikshavn, April 18, TASS--NATO's nuclear strategy in the 80's, questions of development of new military equipment and purchases of armaments are discussed by a session of the NATO Nuclear Planning Group that opened today at the Danish naval base Frederikshavn.

Taking part in the session are defence secretaries of the United States and Britain, defence ministers of Western Germany, Italy, Turkey, Belgium and Denmark, NATO Secretary General Joseph Luns and supreme allied commander, Europe, General Haig.

The Danish press points out that in addition to the official agenda, the session will discuss questions connected with the plans of production of the neutron bomb and its deployment in Western Europe. The leadership of the North Atlantic bloc has not given up the intention to supplement its nuclear arsenals with this weapon.

NATO experts arrived at the conclusion that arming of the Western forces with the neutron bomb will mean their considerable modernization, the newspaper AKTUELT writes.

As is known, 7,000 nuclear warheads are kept in the territory of West European countries, NATO members. The Nuclear Planning Group will discuss measures for modernizing nuclear arsenals.

In this connection U.S. Defence Secretary Harold Brown said yesterday at a press conference in London that perfected types of missiles will be capable of carrying neutron warheads.

Thus the session in Frederikshavn will discuss specific measures connected with neutron weapons. Obviously, the decision of the President of the United States to defer production of neutron weapons is not regarded by NATO strategists as much of a hindrance and does not affect the long-term nuclear plans of the bloc.

The question of the neutron bomb remains on the agenda of various conferences and meetings in the framework of the NATO bloc. The West European public continues protesting against this horrible weapon.

Demonstrations of protest were held today in Frederikshavn and other Danish towns.

CPSU CC SENDS GREETINGS TO SPANISH COMMUNIST PARTY

LD182255Y Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 2147 GMT 18 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, 19 April, TASS--Here follows the text of the CPSU Central Committee greetings to the Ninth Congress of the Spanish Communist Party [PCE]:

"Dear Comrades!

"The CPSU Central Committee sends fraternal greetings to the delegates of the Ninth Congress of the Spanish Communist Party, to all Spanish communists, and wishes success in their activity for the good of their people.

"Your congress has gathered at a responsible time, when Spain is being liberated from the fascist legacy and is undergoing the formation of democracy, and when its contemporary political character is being formed.

"The changes which are taking place in Spain are the result of the heroic struggle for almost half a century of the Spanish communists, all working people and democrats against fascism. Moreover, these changes have become possible as a result of international solidarity with Spanish democrats, and of profound positive progress on the international arena, which has come about as a consequence of the changes in the correlation of forces in favor of socialism and peace.

"Soviet people understand well what great responsibility now rests on Spanish communists at this new stage in the country's political and socioeconomic development. The experience of history accumulated by the international workers movement convincingly confirms that the most important guarantee of democratic transformations and successful struggle for social progress is the existence of a strong communist party, ready for combat, guided in its activity by the scientific theory of Marxism-Leninism and coming out as the genuine vanguard of the broad masses of the workers.

"As is well known to Spanish communists, the problems of overcoming the regime of exploitation and class and national oppression have long been past history for Soviet people. Crises and inflation, high living costs and unemployment have receded irreversably into the past. A developed socialist society has been created and is being constantly improved in the USSR: socialist democracy which secures real rights, liberties and the interests of the working people, and real and effective participation by working people in controlling all the affairs of society from top to bottom has been confirmed. Our achievements are the results of the heroic efforts of our working class, collective farm peasantry and intelligentsia, the historic creativity of the masses, the vanguard role of Soviet communists in socialist and communist construction.

"In the sphere of foreign policy the USSR concentrates its main attention on the struggle for peace, for the security of the peoples against the arms race and for the liquidation of hotbeds of war. At the same time the land of the soviets supports the just struggle of the peoples for national independence and social progress and rebuffs imperialist aggression.

"Now, when the most aggressive circles of imperialism have intensified their attempts to alter the relationship of forces on the world arena in their favor, hinder the social progress of mankind, and are perpetuating the arms race, it is especially important to strengthen in every possible way the cohesion of the communist and workers parties and of all democratic, anti-imperialist forces in the struggle against the main enemy of all peoples--imperialism--and to give a resolute rebuff to all attempts to undermine or weaken the positions of socialism."

"The party of Lenin and the peoples of the land of the soviets have always shown battle solidarity with the heroic struggle of the Spanish communists and democrats for a new Spain. Spanish communists can be certain of the firm loyalty of the CPSU to the principles of internationalism both at the present and in the future.

"Soviet communists value the traditions of friendship and cooperation between our parties which were strengthened by the joint struggle against fascism and reaction. This is something which we consider necessary to preserve and increase in the interest of the peoples of the USSR and Spain, and of cooperation between our countries in the name of peace and security. The CPSU has come out and continues to come out for friendship with the PCE, for fraternal relations with it on the basis of the norms and principles stated in the document of the 1976 Berlin conference and in the joint communique of the two parties of 16 October 1974.

"We wish the PCE success in the struggle for the basic interests of the working people, the strengthening of links with the working class, with all progressive forces, for democracy in Spain, for the triumph of the ideals of peace and socialism.

"Long live friendship between the CPSU and the PCE!

"Long live friendship between the peoples of the USSR and Spain!

"Long live the all-conquering teaching of Marxist-Leninism!

[Signed] "Central Committee of the CPSU."

SOVIET DELEGATION MEETS WITH SPAIN'S DOLORES IBARRURI

LD181030Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0830 GMT 18 Apr 78 LD

[Text] The CPSU delegation consisting of Afanasyev, member of the CPSU Central Committee and PRAVDA editor-in-chief, and Zagladin, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee and first deputy chief of the International Department of the CPSU Central Committee, who have arrived in Madrid to take part in the Ninth Congress of the Spanish Communist Party, have met with Delores Ibarruri, chairman of the communist party. An exchange of views on questions of mutual interest took place.

CPSU SENDS GREETINGS TO NORWEGIAN CP CONGRESS

LD180811Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 15 Apr 78 p 1 LD

[Text] To the 16th Norwegian Communist Party [NKP] Congress:

Dear Comrades,

The CPSU Central Committee sends warm fraternal greetings to the delegates to the 16th NKP Congress and expresses wishes for success in the work of the congress.

Soviet communists know that the NKP consistently defends the vital interests and social and democratic rights of the Norwegian working class and struggles against the monopolies' attempts to transfer the brunt of the crisis onto the shoulders of the working people. The Norwegian communists come out in defense of their country's national interests and are doing a great deal of work in developing and strengthening relations of neighborliness and friendship between our peoples.

Together with all its country's progressive forces, the NKP is making a considerable contribution to the struggle to consolidate detente, to create a lasting system of security and cooperation on our continent on the basis of the Helsinki agreements, to resolve the most urgent problem of the present day--the ending of the arms race and disarmament--and to prevent the dangerous plans for the production of the neutron bomb and its deployment in Western Europe.

Guided by the ideas and conclusions of the Berlin conference of communist and workers parties, the NKP comes out for the internationalist cohesion of the communist movement on the basis of the principles of Marxism-Leninism and rebuffs any manifestations of anticommunism and anti-Sovietism.

The CPSU Central Committee wishes you, dear comrades, successes in the further consolidation of your party's ranks and in the expansion of its ties with the masses for the sake of the triumph of the cause of peace, democracy and socialism.

We express the conviction that the fraternal relations between the CPSU and the NKP built on the basis of proletarian internationalism and complete equality will continue to develop and strengthen.

Long live the NKP!

Long live Marxism-Leninism and the communists' international solidarity!

May the friendship between the peoples of the Soviet Union and Norway strengthen!

[signed] The CPSU Central Committee.

NKP CHAIRMAN DELIVERS POLITICAL REPORT AT CONGRESS

LD181101Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 15 Apr 78 p 4 LD

[Correspondent Yu. Kuznetsov dispatch: "The Norwegian Communists' Conference"]

[Text] The Congress of the Norwegian Communist Party [NKP] opened here today in the Folkets Hus. About 150 delegates, party veterans, communist youth representatives and also guests of the congress and emissaries of a number of fraternal parties, including a CPSU delegation led by G.F. Sizov, chairman of the CPSU Central Auditing Commission and deputy of the USSR Supreme Soviet, are participating in the congress.

The congress will discuss the Central Committee's political report and the party's tasks for the forthcoming period, and also the domestic political situation.

The political report was delivered by M.G. Knudsen, NKP chairman. Speaking of international events which have occurred since the last party congress, he noted the successes of the international communist movement and of the progressive forces in the struggle for peace and democracy and for the relaxation of international tension. The speaker specifically mentioned the tremendous role that the socialist community countries, and particularly the Soviet Union, play in the struggle for relaxed tension and disarmament. Comrade Knudsen noted the significance of the 1976 Berlin conference of European communist and workers parties, when representatives of 30 million communists resolutely declared their support for peace, disarmament, security and cooperation and for the struggle for social progress. He stressed the importance of a resolute struggle against anticommunism and anti-Sovietism.

In this connection, the NKP chairman dwelt on the policies of the present Peking leadership. Recent events, he said, have shown that the Chinese leadership is rejecting the Soviet Union's proposals to improve bilateral relations. The Chinese leaders are acting in the international arena as enemies of peace and detente, the speaker declared. Peking is calling for an increase in the influence of NATO and the Common Market in Western Europe. There is no doubt, M.G. Knudsen observed, that the policy of the Chinese leadership deserves only the most resolute condemnation.

We know, M.G. Knudsen continued, that the international communist movement to which we belong, a movement that is built on the internationalist solidarity of the working class and is the main force in the struggle against imperialism, is currently, 60 years after the October revolution, achieving victories on all continents.

On behalf of the Norwegian communists, the NKP chairman resolutely condemned the attempts by certain Western powers and NATO to launch a new round of the arms race by starting production of neutron weapons.

Speaking of the domestic political situation, Knudsen said that the capitalist crisis is appearing increasingly strongly in Norway, also. In this connection, he stressed the need for resolute action against the dominance of big capital and the monopolies in Norway and for persistent struggles to create a united front of action in defense of working class interests and all the working people of the country. A realization of the need for such unity is becoming increasingly widespread in Norway. The speaker stressed that in this situation work on strengthening and augmenting the ranks of the party, which is being built on the indestructible basis of Marxism-Leninism, is assuming special significance.

A report on organizational questions was then delivered by NKP Vice Chairman R. Nettum, after which speeches by delegates began.

Congress Closes

LD1813?5Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 17 Apr 78 p 3 LD

[Correspondent Yu. Kuznetsov dispatch: "Congress Ends"]

[Text] Oslo, 16 April--The final day of the 16th Norwegian Communist Party [NKP] Congress was devoted to a discussion of topical political questions and the election of leading NKP organs.

Those addressing the congress pointed out the need to attract more talented representatives of the working class into the party. Many delegates noted the dangerous attempts of leading NATO circles to involve Norway more closely in the policies of the aggressive North Atlantic bloc and to start a new round of the arms race by adopting the inhuman weapon of mass destruction--the neutron bomb. The congress intensively studied problems facing the country connected with the continuing deterioration of the position of the broad masses of the working population.

The speech by (E. Skanke), chairman of the NKP district committee in the Finnmark county, was particularly typical. We live at a time, he said, when our ideas, the ideas of communism, are scoring victories throughout the world and the movement to which we belong is emerging as the main force for restructuring the world--from capitalism to socialism. We live in a world where socialism already exists in a number of countries and where a society free from the evils of capitalism is being created.

The Finnmark communists, (F. Skanke) continued, favor unity in the anti-imperialist struggle, proceeding from the principle of proletarian internationalism. We stress the significance of principled loyalty to Marxism-Leninism, rejection of manifestations of anticommunism, revisionism and opportunism on which the enemies of socialism are today speculating, the speaker said.

The congress delegates discussed and also adopted two documents--a political economic manifesto and a manifesto "for an active peace policy." In the first of these, the NKP proposes a set of measures it has drawn up on overcoming the crisis phenomena in the country in such a way that the interests of the working population are not affected.

The manifesto "for an active peace policy" notes that the enemies of peaceful coexistence, detente and disarmament have recently activated their attempts to frustrate the positive development of international relations which was manifested in particular in the results of the conference on security and cooperation in Europe. U.S. and NATO plans to include the neutron bomb in the nuclear arsenal evoke particular alarm. All this makes the struggle of all peaceloving forces against the intrigues of the enemies of peace essential. The Norwegian communists are putting forward a number of proposals on the creation in the country of a broad popular movement for peace and security. The congress delegates adopted a resolution appealing for an active struggle against neutron weapons and a statement regarding the Israeli aggression against Lebanon.

In conclusion, elections of the national directorate were held. M.G. Knudsen was reelected chairman of the NKP.

ITALY'S MORO 'CONDEMNED TO DEATH' BY KIDNAPERS

LD181341Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 17 Apr 78 p 3 LD

[Correspondent N. Prozhogin report: "Dramatic Events"]

[Text] Rome, 16 April--The terrorist organization which kidnaped A. Moro, former prime minister and chairman of the National Council of the Christian Democratic Party, a month ago left a sixth "communique" in Rome, Milan, Turin and Genoa yesterday evening. It says that the "trial" of their prisoner has been completed and he has been "found guilty" and "condemned to death."

The newspaper IL POPOLO, the organ of the Christian Democratic Party, has published an editorial speaking, in particular, of the need to "do everything possible" to save A. Moro's life.

L'UNITA expresses confidence that further mobilization of the people's masses, which has already led to the moral isolation of the perpetrators of the political crime, will wreck the plot aimed at undermining the republican system in Italy.

FRESH U.S. ATTEMPT TO RESTART ISRAEL-EGYPT TALKS

LD1818l4Y Moscow TASS in English 1643 GMT 18 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Washington, April 18 TASS--U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance now on his way from Salisbury to London made a stopover in the Egyptian capital, where he met with A.R.E. Foreign Minister Kamil. The meeting, as observers note, is a starting point of a fresh attempt by the United States for a resumption of the deadlocked Egyptian-Israeli separate talks.

A spokesman for the U.S. State Department told a press conference here that roving Ambassador A. Atherton is to resume in the next few days "mediatory" efforts in the Middle East. With this aim in view, he is to visit Egypt and Israel before the end of the week.

The newspaper Washington POST notes that although Atherton will seek a resumption of the Egyptian-Israeli talks, nevertheless there is no indication of whether he is to take to the Middle East fresh proposals of the United States, or is to offer a new role for the USA at these talks. Washington is known to support As-Sadat's capitulatory actions while expressing by word of mouth "dissatisfaction" with the ostentatiously tough demands of the Begin government, but at the same time, it is continuing all round aid, including military aid, to Tel Aviv thus ensuring for it the possibility to hold talks with Egypt from the positions of strength.

Beirut, April 18 TASS--The Israeli leaders make it clear that As-Sadat must not hope for any changes in their stand as regards the terms of concluding a separate deal. Israeli Deputy Defence Minister Zippori has reiterated that Tel Aviv does not intend to give up its policy of colonisation of the occupied Arab territories and will further widen the network of its militarised settlements.

Members of the Israeli extremist "Gush Emunim" grouping started yesterday the construction of a Jewish settlement in Nebi Salah area on the West Bank of the Jordan River. The construction is done with the permission of the Israeli Government.

Damascus, April 18 TASS--Syrian Defence Minister M. Talas strongly criticised As-Sadat's anti-Arab course for a separate settlement with Israel. Addressing a meeting held in the Syrian capital, he said that As-Sadat's visit to Jerusalem was a vile stab in the back of the Arab peoples, a betrayal of their interests. Working in collusion with Israel, As-Sadat even knew in advance about the plan of invasion of Lebanon by Israeli military, the minister stressed.

ISRAELI CONSTRUCTION IN SINAI, WEST BANK REPORTED

LD1813l6Y Moscow TASS in English 1140 GMT 18 Apr 78

[Text] New York, April 18, TASS--Tel Aviv staged another provocation, which reveals its intention to continue the tough course at the separate talk with Cairo, according to news agencies' dispatches from Tel Aviv, Israel resumed the construction of paramilitary settlements on occupied Arab territories--on the Sinai Peninsula and on the Jordan West Bank.

On Monday, Israeli television showed a film of construction activity in Sinai and reported that 270 families would be moving to that area this summer. The bulk of them would settle in four areas not previously inhabited.

Besides, a spokesman of the extreme right-wing religious organization Gush Emunim said that work had resumed with government approval at new settlements on the Jordan West Bank. Tractors and bulldozers have broken ground on the site at Nebi Salah.

Commemtators explain the resumption of Israeli activity in occupied Sinai and the Jordan West Bank by Tel Aviv's tough line in its separate talks with Cairo. Tel Aviv is known to ask for Cairo's consent to the retention of the Israeli paramilitary settlements in Sinai. The construction of new reinforced strongholds on the Sinai Peninsula is evidence showing that Tel Aviv is not going to make any concessions on this major issue. Pursuing a tough line vis-a-vis Egypt, the Israeli leadership expects that the president of the A.R.E., who had taken to the road of open betrayal of the interests of the Arab countries, would have to make further concessions to Tel Aviv. The commentators point out that Israel's latest provocative actions in Sinai and the Jordan West Bank were a direct consequence of the capitulatory course of the Egyptian president aimed at a separate deal with Tel Aviv.

ARAB VOICES URGE RETURN TO COLLECTIVE ACTIONS

LD180639Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 15 Apr 78 p 4 LD

[P. Demchenko article: "New Complications"]

[Text] The news about the invasion of southern Lebanon by Israeli tank columns reached me in Damascus. It took me less than 2 hours to drive to the Lebanese region of Arkub, which had become an arena of tragic events.

From the high stony hill, the smoke-shrouded village the Israeli soldiers had reached could be seen in the distance. The Palestinian battery hidden on the other side of the hill fired a few volleys, then retreated to a new position somewhere. Along the road leading north cars, vans and trucks filled with people, suitcases, crates of chickens, mattresses and other simple peasant goods hurtled one after the other--inhabitants of surrounding villages fleeing the danger....

The results of the Israeli invasion are known: approximately 1,700 square kilometers of Lebanese territory have been occupied, and many villages and Palestinian camps have been destroyed. According to incomplete figures 1,300 people have been killed and 4,000 wounded; the majority of those who suffered were civilians. In addition to this, 200,000 Palestinians and Lebanese have left long-occupied places and fled to the area of Beirut. Thus, the Israeli aggression against a neighboring country has turned into a new tragedy for thousands and thousands of families....

The Western press has said a lot about the fact that the Israeli strike was inflicted by limited forces and pursued limited aims--to destroy the basis of Palestinian partisans in southern Lebanon. We will not go into a discussion about who gave Israel the right to carry out an arbitrary act against another country; a great deal has been written about this. It is known that the ruling circles of Tel Aviv have for a long time been pursuing a policy vis-a-vis their Arab neighbors that cannot be called anything but the policy of pirates. This is precisely how the readers of PRAVDA, L.Y. Shishko from Leningrad, V.V. Kamarzayev from Feodisiya, V.M. Zilberman from Birobidzhan and many others who sent letters to the editorial staff, saw it.

Let us consider another question: Is it correct to view only the narrow, limited aims of the Israeli invasion of Lebanon in light of the overall, fairly confused Near East situation?

In addition to Lebanon and Syria I recently managed to visit Egypt and Iraq and to again view the Near East crisis "from within." It is natural that people often talk about Egypt's present policy, even in Cairo.

Today's Cairo gives the impression of a city weighed down with difficult problems. In the last 10 years the population has grown by more than 3 million, mainly due to the fedayeen who have fled the villages and utter poverty. In the capital, and in other cities too, the majority of these former peasants have not found either guaranteed work or regular accommodations.

There is an age-long difficulty for Egypt: there is little pastureland in the Nile Valley. In the last 25 years the country's population has almost doubled (it is now approaching 40 million people) but the amount of land that can be worked has only increased by one-third--mainly thanks to the Aswan Dam created with the participation of the Soviet Union. For each Egyptian there is now less than 1 hectare of pasture or orchard; it goes without saying that Egyptian fedayeen are centenarians and Nile land is very fertile--it gives two and three harvests a year--but eight hundredths of a hectare is nevertheless much less than the amount of land available per inhabitant in many other countries. Every year the country imports more grain and meat, fats and tobacco....

But it is not objective circumstances but rather those based on considerations of expediency which have now been advanced to the fore. I recall that in 1974 President as-Sadat, promising the people that he would overcome the economic difficulties, proclaimed a program of "economic and political liberatization of the regime" which was named the "open-door policy." Its declared aim was to activate local private capital and attract foreign investments from the West and as many dollars as possible from the oil shaykdoms of the Arabian Peninsula. In pursuing this policy Egypt has abandoned the progressive social course followed under the late President Abd an-Nasir.

The internal restructuring also led to the reorientation of foreign policy. Curtailing cooperation with the socialist countries and embarking on the path of anti-sovietism, A. as-Sadat's entourage increasingly linked its fate with the West and with U.S. policy in the Near East and Africa.

The years have passed, and it has become clear that the "open-door policy" has run aground and has not given the country the promised prosperity but let to the growth of a social and economic crisis. Only part of the bourgeoisie and a handful of big merchants, officials and contractors wallowing in corruption have gained from it. The influx of foreign and local capital into the production sector has proved insignificant. The problem of employment and daily bread has become even more complex for millions of families. However patient and hardy the Egyptian, tempered by many centuries of want, may be, his patience has a limit.

It is in precisely this situation that official Egyptian propaganda has begun to "promote" the slogan "peace at any price." "Unless we want to starve, the Near East crisis must be resolved as soon as possible," a journalist close to the government has written. That was how the psychological preparation for A. as-Sadat's trip to Jerusalem was conducted. Here, of course, they kept quite about the fact that the Egyptian president's "initiative" had been gradually prepared long ago by U.S. diplomacy. Even H. Kissinger, who believed that Egypt should be "rewarded" for each step in this direction, began to push Cairo toward rapprochement with the West and Israel, isolation from the Arab countries steering an anti-imperialist course, and alienation from the socialist states. Of course, imperialism does not throw money to the wind: If it has opened up its credit to Egypt, then it is for a perfectly specific purpose--to acquire an ally in the form of a very important Arab state.

The beginning of separate talks with Israel was thus an act prepared by U.S. policy, which at the same time answered the class interests of the forces ruling in Egypt. The attention of the broad masses was distracted from the dismal state of internal affairs, and the prospects for peace were depicted as deliverance from the many burdens on the people. It was also counted on that the "As-Sadat initiative" will be rewarded with two "prizes"--one from the United States, the other from Israel.

It is clear today that these plans were founded on the basis of emotion rather than realism. Not only has Israel not renounced the desire to keep a substantial part of the occupied territories, but it raised the stakes even higher once it became convinced that A. as-Sadat had weakened his positions in the international and inter-Arab arena. Events again confirmed that the Arab peoples are opposed by the strategy of Israeli ruling circles; this strategy relies on influential imperialist forces, and one of the most important parts of it is extending the country's territory at the expense of Arab lands. Israeli Prime Minister M. Begin stated openly: "No Israeli Government will agree to elimination of the settlements in Sinai and the Golan Heights." M. Begin declared the Palestinian lands--the West Bank of the Jordan and the Gaza Strip--to be "liberated territories."

It would seem that all the bridges are burned and there is no longer any basis for Cairo-Tel Aviv talks; the Israeli demands turned out to be higher than the concessions which even figures in the Egyptian leadership, inclined as they are to compromise, can make. No Arab country was willing to join these talks. But no, secret contacts continue. The other day an attempt to renew official talks was made: With this aim Israeli Defense Minister E. Weizman visited Cairo, and it has been announced that he will go there again.

What are the reasons for this development of events? Let us mention one of the main ones, from our point of view, the position of the United States. It is pushing Cairo and Tel Aviv toward continuation of the separate talks, which create the appearance of progress toward a settlement and commit Egypt to a certain political course. The most bitter reproach leveled at M. Begin in Washington during his recent visit to the American capital was that he is "frightening As-Sadat off" with his intractability. Washington still counts on "bringing together" M. Begin and A. as-Sadat by inviting them to the United States again.

J. Reston, a New York TIMES observer, recently lifted a corner of the curtain on the sinister plans the Pentagon nurtures for the Near East. "Certain officials," Reston wrote, "are studying the possibility of any compromise agreement being guaranteed by the United States, supported by a U.S. Air Force base in Sinai and a naval base in Haifa...."

In Cairo relatively well-informed people told me of another fact. According to them, outside the framework of official cabinets Israeli emissaries are proposing this deal: Cairo makes concessions on the territorial question and no longer insists on self-determination for the Palestinian Arabs, and in reply Israel guarantees an influx of Zionist capital from the West into the Nile Valley, which will inject new life into the "open-door policy" and strengthen the positions of the Egyptian ruling grouping by giving the Egyptian bourgeoisie another chance.

This plan looks simple, but the question arises here: Why will Zionist banks not insure the prosperity of Israel itself, which is going through constant economic difficulties and is deep in debt and has inflation and high prices?
Nonetheless, reports on the existence of concrete Israeli-Egyptian plans seep into the press now and then. This is apparently one more hook on which Western capital expects to catch the Egyptians.

There are many obstacles--both internal and external--in the path of such deals. In the inter-Arab arena this includes both the Palestinian resistance movement, which will not allow anyone to resolve their own problems at the Palestinians' expense, and the Arab countries which reject separatist methods.

On invading Lebanon, it is now apparent that Tel Aviv has set itself several aims: to extend the zone of occupation of Arab lands, to inflame the situation in the Near East as a whole, and to strike a blow at the Palestinian resistance movement. The main target, as before, was the PLO, which is fighting for self-determination for the Palestinian Arabs, including the creation of an independent state. It is natural that the deepening of the split in the Arab world caused by the "As-Sadat initiative" freed the hands of the Israeli "hawks" even more. By means of aggression against Lebanon they are trying, in particular, to make the Palestinians renounce the struggle and prove that if PLO supporters stand up for what is theirs, they are threatened with physical annihilation. Consequently, there is one way out--the adoption of the American-Israeli plan: scant autonomy for the West Bank of the Jordan or the referendum proposed by Washington on which country--Israel or Jordan--the Palestinians of the territories occupied in 1967 want to become citizens of (there are 1.2 million of them).

It is not hard to observe that all these calculations ignore the role of progressive forces in the Arab east and Arab public opinion. But this is a very important factor in the region's political life today. The aggression against Lebanon boomeranged against its initiators; it strengthened anti-Israeli sentiments among the people's masses and opposition to American plans in the Near East and narrowed still further the base for maneuvering for those circles inclined to a behind-the-scenes deal with Tel Aviv.

As for the PLO, as its leader, Y. 'Arafat states, it is fully determined to continue the struggle for the national rights of the Palestinian Arabs. Progressive organizations of Lebanon and other Arab countries are in a position of solidarity with it. Changes are also taking place in Egyptian public opinion, which could not fail to be influenced by the failure of the policy of separate talks and the country's isolation from the Arab world and the socialist states. In the press of many Arab capitals today voices are growing stronger in favor of a return to collective actions in resolving the Near East crisis as the only realistic course, since no separate actions can bring peace to this long-suffering part of the planet.

AS-SADAT BOOK DISTORTS HISTORY FOR POLITICAL PURPOSE

LD1813462 Moscow TASS in English 1318 GMT 18 Apr 78 LD

["Distorted Mirror: Concerning Anwar as-Sadat's Memoirs"--TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, April 18, TASS--The TASS political commentator, Yuriy Kornilov, writes: The contemporary political history of Egypt is depicted in a strange, to put it mildly, light in Anwar as-Sadat's book "In Search of Myself--The Story of My Life", recently published in Cairo. The author lays claim to giving an appraisal of the most important historic milestones in the life of Egypt in several recent decades. Generally known and irrefutable facts, however, are turned upside down in the book, and the story of the "Search of Myself" rather resembles the fairy-tale of the "Kingdom of Distorted Mirrors", while real history has been so much distorted that it resembles a caricature. It is well-known what outstanding role in the destiny of Egypt was played by the first president of that country, one of the most authoritiative leaders of the Arab world, Jamal 'Abd an-Nasir, who led in the memorable month of July, 1952, the "free officers" organization and headed the Egyptian revolution.

Much has been written and said about this. But now Anwar as-Sadat takes up the pen and nothing remains of the generally known facts: It turns out the main role in the setting up and development of the "free officers" organization was played not by An-Nasir but by the author of the memoirs, and the Egyptian revolution itself was led by none other than the very same As-Sadat, who elaborates on this, though without abducing any proof, in his work.

But as they say, in for a penny, in for a pound. Anwar as-Sadat, who has re-written in a way welcome to him the whole history of the Egyptian revolution, is revaluing almost all the fundamental acts of this revolution. The aim is always the same: to play up his own role and at the same time to try to debunk An-Nasir's activity and to put in a bad light the whole totality of the principles, which determined in that period the main trends in Egypt's foreign and home policy. Particularly fierce attacks are levelled against the progressive line, which was consistently implemented in An-Nasir's time so as not only to ensure Egypt's political and economic independence, but also to deliver the country and other Arab states from foreign domination--the policy which was replaced by the notorious "open door" policy, which opened access for foreign big business to Egypt. Whatever steps directed against the dominance of foreign monopolies, at the liquidation of the seats of colonialism, are touched upon, whether it be the nationalisation of the international company of the Suez Canal in 1956, anti-feudal and anti-capitalist measures or the course for industrialisation--all these steps are assessed by the author of the memoirs only as "hasty", "ill considered", "erroneous," etc. In doing so, the undeniable fact is fully disregarded that it was precisely in An-Nasir's years that Egypt, which based itself on the aid and support of its natural and reliable allies the Soviet Union and the other socialist states, made considerable progress in its home and foreign policy.

The history of Egyptian-Soviet relations is represented in Anwar as-Sadat's memoirs in an absolutely distorted light. It is common knowledge that the Soviet Union has always--both in the days of peace and in the grim days of war--appeared as a loyal friend of Egypt and its people, that it is precisely the USSR that has given Egypt inestimable aid in creating its own economic basis and granted the Egyptian, like the other Arab peoples, everything necessary for effective defence from the aggressor. This has also been recognized by As-Sadat himself. It is nobody else but his own self who declared, for example, in October 1973 to the Soviet ambassador in Cairo: "Your stand is that of real friends, who came to our aid in the most crucial and difficult days for us." But the same As-Sadat has now completely "forgotten" his old pronouncements and made a radical turn. He spares no paper and ink in order to distort the history of Egyptian-Soviet relations, to blacken the policy of the Soviet land vis-a-vis Egypt and the Middle East as a whole. The author of the memoirs has recourse to all sorts of fantastic inventions. Once he starts speculating at length on alleged "differences" between An-Nasir and the Soviet leaders, once he tries to accuse An-Nasir of "unilateral orientation" to the USSR....

The "Search of Myself", undertaken by Anwar as-Sadat, judging from everything, not without outside prompting and distorting the entire experience of Egypt's political and economic development after 1952, shows that As-Sadat, perhaps, "found himself", but lost any idea of the real state of affairs. Incidentally, his "memoirs" have a quite definite political purpose: This is nothing but an attempt, seasoned with a lot of self-publicity, to cross out the past, to justify the sliding into the present unprincipled capitulatory course of Cairo, which is rightly assessed in the Arab world as grovelling before imperialism and Zionism, as a blow on Arab unity.

PLO OFFICIAL WARNS ALGIERS CONFERENCE ABOUT REACTION

LD181842Y Moscow TASS in English 1628 GMT 18 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Algiers, April 18 TASS--The conference of the information ministers of member-countries of the front of progressive Arab states which are against the traitorous policy of Egyptian President as-Sadat. [sentence as received] Taking part in the conference are representatives of Algeria, Libya, the PDRY, Syria, as well as the Palestine Liberation Organization.

Our conference is aimed at implementing in practice the decisions taken at the conferences in Tripoli and Algiers by the leaders of Algeria, Libya, the PDRY, Syria and the PLO in the field of information, Yasir 'Abd Rabbu, head of the culture and information department of the PLO, the leader of the Palestinian delegation, said in an interview with the newspaper EL MOUDJAHID. He pointed to the danger of the attempts by reactionary Arab regimes to distort the positions of progressive forces which come out against As-Sadat's capitulatory policy, against the establishment of the dominance of imperialism, Zionism and reaction in the Arab world. Reaction seeks to create illusions among Arab masses as to a possibility of solving the Middle East problem (?by) concessions to Israel and imperialist forces, Yasir 'Abd Rabbu emphasized. This is why a paramount importance is being assumed by the tasks of stepping up struggle against the capitulatory versions of the Middle East settlement, against any bargaining round the legitimate national rights of the Arab people of Palestine, against any intrigues of imperialism, Zionism and Arab reaction. Yasir 'Abd Rabbu specially noted the necessity of an active struggle against the penetration of the Middle East by U.S. imperialism which, he said, is the main enemy of Arab peoples.

Conference Ends

LD190758Y Moscow TASS in English 0551 GMT 19 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Algiers, April 19, TASS--A conference of the information ministers of Arab states opposing Egyptian President as-Sadat's capitulatory policy has ended here. The conference delegates, including a representative of the Palestine Liberation Organization, discussed questions of coordination of the work of information media of these countries and outlined steps to expose the plans and aims of imperialism and Zionism in the Middle East.

FURTHER MATERIAL ON ISRAELI MOVE INTO LEBANON

Continued Shelling

LD181809Y Moscow TASS in English 1606 GMT 18 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Beirut, April 18, TASS--Israeli military continue building up tension in Lebanon's southern areas. In the course of the last twentyfour hours, Israeli artillery repeatedly shelled the positions of the Palestine resistance movement and the national-patriotic forces. As a result of shelling Kaleyla Bayada and Burj Rahal populated localities, there were casualties among the civilian population. The artillery of the Palestine resistance movement and the national patriotic forces had to return fire. Acts of vandalism and massacre of the peaceful civilian population by the Israeli military in the south Lebanon's territory captured by Israel are made public. As the local Lebanese AS-SUHUFIYAH agency reports, Israeli soldiers, who captured a village on the outskirts of the town of Khiyam, killed 30 residents.

The meeting of the leadership of the Progressive Socialist Party, which was held here, examined the situation in the country in the light of the continuing Israeli occupation of south Lebanon's areas and its attempts to sabotage the implementation of the U.N. Security Council resolution on the withdrawal of Israeli troops.

The statement issued after the session stresses that international efforts at this stage must be concentrated on a strict compliance by Israel with the U.N. Security Council resolution with the aim of making it withdraw its troops from southern Lebanon immediately and unconditionally and restore there the sovereignty of the legitimate Lebanese authorities. Israel's policy and practical actions in the occupied Lebanon's territories, the document says, indicate that Israel continues strengthening its hold of that country's south.

The recent armed clashes in Beirut, the statement notes, were aimed at dealing a blow to the Palestine revolution and Lebanon's national patriotic forces, at facilitating the Israeli occupation of the country's southern areas.

Provocations in Beirut

LD180601Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 15 Apr 78 p 5 LD

[Correspondent K. Geyvandov report: "A Complex Situation"]

[Text] Beirut, 14 April--After the achievement of a new cease-fire and a regrouping of the Arab peace-keeping forces in Lebanon, the atmosphere in the Lebanese capital was relatively quiet today. However, individual snipers are operating as before from the roofs of buildings and from under cover, continuing to create tension.

According to the newspaper AS-SAFIR, suspicious activity is also being manifested by armed formations of the conservative forces. They have established control posts in several settlements and on important highways and have taken control of the port of Beirut.

A statement published here by the Palestinian information agency WAFA evaluates the events taking place. It says that contrary to the assertions of leaders of the conservative "Lebanese front" no Palestinian organization took part in the latest armed confrontations in the southeastern suburbs of Beirut. These confrontations, the statement stresses, are a provocation carried out by isolationist elements against civilians and the Arab peace-keeping forces.

In the complex situation of continuing imperialist intrigues and the Israeli occupation of southern Lebanon the national patriotic forces issued a joint declaration in support of the Arab forces in the country and in favor of close cooperation between Lebanon and Syria. They also called for the mobilization of the while country in the struggle for the complete withdrawal of Israeli troops from Lebanese territory.

Israeli Complaint to U.S.

LD180647Y Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 14 Apr 78 p 3 LD

[V. Vinogradov article: "The Aggressor Lodges a 'Complaint'"]

[Text] A few days ago Israel made a "complaint" to the United States. The reason for this unexpected demarche was the fact that during the fighting in south Lebanon the Palestinians used "light American weapons and ammunition which the United States had once delivered to Saudi Arabia" against the invaders.

This is how it happened. When the latest American F-15 aircraft flown by the Israelis levelled the south Lebanese settlements and camps of Palestinian refugees and American-made cluster bombs destroyed civilians, Tel Aviv considered this to be normal. However, as soon as it became clear that the invasion of Lebanon would not be an "easy ride" since the aggressor met with stubborn resistence, Tel Aviv began to make a fuss; the Palestinians, they said, have American weapons at their disposal. And immediately afterward came a complaint to the United States along with a few "examples" of these weapons. The Pentagon experts, as the U.S. State Department spokesman reported, made some investigations and determined that the "majority" of weapons were indeed produced in America; however, they excluded the possibility of their being supplied to the Palestinians by Saudi Arabia. The same spokesman stated that the investigations were continuing. We are not about to say how these "investigations" will end but we can state the glaring hypocrisy of such a "complaint" by Tel Aviv. Having become the victim of aggression the Palestinians have the right to protect themselves with any weapons they possess.

PLO ENJOYS GROWING INFLUENCE AMONG ARABS IN ISRAEL

LD181045Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 16 Apr 78 p 5 LD

[A. Vasilyev report under general heading: "Rallying Their Ranks"]

[Text] Cairo--A study carried out by the Israeli newspaper HA'AREZ recently shows that the PLO is enjoying growing influence and authority among Israel's Arab population. Leaflets were recently distributed in the Arab settlements of Galilee stating in particular: "The PLO is the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinians, and the Israeli Arabs must unite with their brothers on the West Bank of the Jordan and in Gaza to thwart all Israeli attempts to disregard the PLO."

PALESTINIANS NOT ALOOF FROM PLO STRUGGLE, MAYOR SAYS

LD181047Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 16 Apr 78 p 5 LD

[V. Peresada report under general heading: "Rallying Their Ranks"]

[Text] Algiers--"The Palestinians living on the territory seized by Israel resolutely oppose the occupation and will never come to terms with it," Karim Khalaf, mayor of the Palestinian city of Ramallah, stated in an interview with the newspaper EL MOUDJAHID.

"Recently," he said, "some Arab regimes have been trying to allege that the Palestinian population is aloof from the struggle the PLO is waging and do not support it. As a Palestinian living on occupied territory I can say that this is a gross lie aimed against the interests of our people and against the PLO--our sole and legitimate representative.

"When the Egyptian president suggested a meeting with the mayors of the occupied Palestinian cities," Karim Khalaf continued, "our unanimous refusal to display solidarity with his capitulationist policy showed the whole world that As-Sadat has no right to speak either on behalf of the Palestinians living on the lands seized by Israel or on behalf of the Palestinians people as a whole.

"We come out in support of the decisions of the Tripoli and Algiers conferences, which provide for a consistent struggle for an all-embracing settlement of the Near East crisis and the restoration of our people's flouted rights," the mayor of Ramallah said in conclusion.

SYRIA PROTESTS ISRAELI USE OF NUCLEAR-POWERED DEVICE

LD182046Y Moscow TASS in English 2024 GMT 18 Apr 78 LD

[Text] New York, April 18, TASS--In a note to the chairman of the Security Council, the permanent representation of the Syrian Arab Republic at the United Nations made a resolute protest against new provocations of the Israeli military.

The note says that Israeli soldiers crossed the zone of disengagement of armed forces of Syria and Israel in the Golan Heights and placed booby traps with a radio device close to the highway linking the town of Dar'a with Damascus. An investigation held by the Syrian authorities established that this device was equipped with nuclear batteries made in the United States. They operate with the use of radioactive substances whose use in military purposes is banned.

This criminal act, the note says, is a "gross violation of the basic principles and norms of international law and also a glaring violation of the agreement on disengagement of Syrian and Israeli troops".

Sharply condemning Israel's actions, Syria's permanent representation at the United Nations declared that these actions constitute a serious threat to international peace and security and that Israel will bear responsibility "for all the consequences of this new criminal act".

Syria demanded that the Security Council should apply to Israel strict sanctions envisaged by the United Nations Charter so as to put an end to crimes of the Israeli military.

RYABOV AT SYRIAN ENVOY'S NATIONAL DAY RECEPTION

LD172158Y Moscow TASS in English 1930 GMT 17 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, April 17, TASS--The Syrian ambassador in the USSR Jabr al-Kafri today held a reception on the occasion of a national holiday of the Syrian people--the evacuation of foreign troops from the territory of the country.

Present at the reception were Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Yakov Ryabov, Vice President of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet Mikhail Yasnov, Deputy Chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers Leonid Smirnov, ministers, people prominent in science and culture, representatives of the USSR-Syria friendship society and of other public organisations.

MATERIAL ON ACTIVITIES OF ANGOLA'S NETO IN USSR

Talk with Brezhnev

LD191137Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1100 GMT 19 Apr 78 LD

[Text] There was a meeting today between Leonid Ilich Brezhnev, CPSU Central Committee general secretary and chairman of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, and Agostinho Neto, chairman of the MPLA-Labor Party and president of the People's Republic of Angola [PRA], who is on vacation [nakhodyashchiysya na otdykhe] in the Soviet Union.

Ponomarev, Politburo candidate member and CPSU Central Committee secretary, took part in the meeting, which was held in an atmosphere of friendship and mutual understanding.

Leonid Ilich Brezhnev and Agostinho Neto expressed profound satisfaction with the successful development of friendly relations and all-round fruitful cooperation between the USSR and the PRA and stressed the firm determination of both countries to deepen and develop them.

It was noted that an important role in the development of Soviet-Angolan relations is being played by the strengthening of ties between the CPSU and the MPLA-Labor Party.

Agostinho Neto presented information on the activity of the MPLA-Labor Party and the PRA Government aimed at implementing the decisions of the party's first congress on the reconstruction of the country's political and economic life on socialist principles.

Leonid Ilich Brezhnev wished Agostinho Neto and the Angolan people much success in building a new society free from exploitation of man by man and reaffirmed that the Soviet Union will continue to provide the heroic people of Angola with every kind of support.

Agostinho Neto expressed profound gratitude to the Soviet people, the CPSU Central Committee, and personally to Leonid Ilich Brezhnev for disinterested fraternal aid in upholding independence and strengthening the defense potential and economic development of the PRA. He declared the complete solidarity of the PRA with the Soviet Union in the anti-imperialist struggle to secure peace and security throughout the world.

During discussion of African and international problems, the historical significance of cooperation between the countries of the socialist community and the forces of national liberation was stressed in the matter of the final liquidation of colonialism and national oppression and support for the struggle of the peoples of Namibia, Zimbabwe and the Republic of South Africa against colonial racist regimes was declared.

The Soviet Union and the PRA favor establishment as quickly as possible of a firm peace and good neighborliness in the Horn of Africa, which must be founded on rejection of territorial claims and the principles of mutual respect for sovereignty, territorial integrity, the inviolability of borders and noninterference in each other's internal affairs in accordance with the aims and principles of the UN Charter and corresponding OAU resolutions.

Leonid Ilich Brezhnev and Agostinho Neto expressed their joint satisfaction that regular meetings between leading party and state figures of the Soviet Union and the PRA are in accordance with the strengthening of trust and the further development of all-round cooperation between the two countries.

Visit to Crimea

LD181722Y Moscow in English to Africa 1500 GMT 18 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Soviet television in its main news program, which is seen all over the country with the help of satellites, showed yesterday the warm reception given to President Agostinho Neto of Angola when he visited the international children's camp of Artek in the Crimea. President Neto is vacationing in the Soviet Union. At the camp he told the children about the building of a peaceful life in Angola and about the broad social and economic changes that are being carried out by the MPLA Party of Labor. He stressed especially the care the Angolan Government gives to the growing population. President Neto underlined the resolve of the Angolan people to uphold the gains of popular government.

U.S. REPORTEDLY INVOLVED IN 1975 INTRUSION INTO ANGOLA

LD181224Y Moscow TASS in English 1130 GMT 18 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Maputo, April 18, TASS--As seen from the statement made in Capetown by the South African Defence Minister Pieter Botha, the armed intrusion of the South African militarists into the territory of Angola at the end of 1975 was undertaken "with the knowledge and direct encouragement of the United States". Speaking at a session of the parliament, the South African minister accused the United States of "shamelessly leaving us in trouble" after the failure of the armed South African intervention against the People's Republic of Angola early in 1976.

The admission of the South African defence minister is notable only because a high-placed racialist has for the first time admitted the participation of the United States in the Angolan events.

In the meantime, the facts, linked with the imperialist intervention in Angola, taking part in which were regular troops of the Republic of South Africa, foreign mercenaries and Angolan splitters, are well known to the world public. They were strongly condemned in the United Nations, in the Organization of African Unity and at many international forums. The trial of the mercenaries in Luanda brought to light additional data about the key role played in this venture by the intelligence services of the NATO countries, primarily, by the Central Intelligence Agency of the United States. The subversive activity conducted against the People's Republic of Angola by the racialist regime of the Republic of South Africa, backed by the imperialist circles of the West, continues to this day. Pretoria has given full asylum to the remnants of the defeated FNLA and UNITA split-away groups, which are being used to stage piratic raids on the terriotry of Angola. South African war bases in Grootfontein and in the Caprivi zone are placed at the disposal of the pirates. The leaders of the UNITA and FNLA are frequent guests in the Republic of South Africa, where, jointly with the racialist "instructors", they draw up new plans for subversive actions against Angola.

ORGANIZED CONSPIRACY AGAINST ETHIOPIA DESCRIBED

LD181909Y Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1305 GMT 18 Apr 78 LD

["A New Plot Against Ethiopia"--TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, 18 April--TASS political observer Sergey Kulik says: The ending of the armed conflict in the Horn of Africa has created favorable conditions for restoration of genuine peace in that region, a peace in the interest of all of northeast Africa.

As has been repeatedly stressed, unconditional renunciation by all states in the Horn of Africa of territorial claims on each other and mutual pledges to adhere to UN and OAU principles such as the nonuse of force in solving international conflicts and noninterference in internal affairs of other states should be the necessary conditions for achieving such a peace.

Meanwhile, the situation in the Horn of Africa has so far by no means returned to normal. According to UPI, it is even "again deteriorating whereby previously neutral Kenya is being drawn ever deeper into the conflict." It is becoming increasingly obvious that certain circles, both in the West and in the Arab world, are urging Mogadiscio on to make territorial claims against its neighbors and steering events toward turning northeast Africa into a new zone of tension.

Here they are banking on impeding implementation of sweeping progressive reforms in a major country of this area--Ethiopia--and by means of talk of an imaginary "Soviet threat", on creating a pretext for the permanent military presence of the imperialist powers in the Red Sea basin.

The United States and the other NATO countries are encouraging Mogadiscio in every possible way to give direct political and military support to the saboteurs operating in the Ogaden and a number of other areas of Ethiopia. This "aid" has of late been assuming such a scope that Ethiopia has been forced to accuse Somalia of "continuing its policy of aggression." Addis Ababa warned that if this aggression continues "Ethiopia will take all necessary retaliatory measures."

The West--directly and through third countries--is supplying Somalia with large batches of modern weapons. In spite of the assertions of imperialist propaganda these weapons are not at all of a defensive nature and include missiles, fighter planes, helicopters and tanks.

At the same time the NATO powers have moved their own military vessels toward the shores of socialist Ethiopia. Such an unprecedented show of strength is rightly perceived by the progressive public as an attempt to bring pressure to bear on Ethiopia and to heat up the situation even more in this already explosive area.

Finally, the West has declared a propaganda war on Ethiopia, concentrating its slanderous blows on the selfless aid given to the Ethiopian people by the USSR, Cuba and other socialist countries. As Fikre-Selassie Wodgeres, general secretary of the Ethiopian Provisional Military Administrative Council, has said: The anti-Ethiopian campaign and the open interference in Ethiopia's internal affairs on the part of the U.S. Government have reached a "serious stage" and have called into question the future of Ethiopian-American and Ethiopian-British relations.

One cannot fail to note that Peking is playing an increasingly active role in the camp of the enemies of socialist Ethiopia. The visit by Somalia's president to the PRC was used by the Peking leaders as a pretext for new anti-Soviet attacks and for the expression of solidarity with those circles in the Red Sea region which are weaving intrigues against the progressive regimes in northeast Africa.

It is thus becoming increasingly obvious that the forces of international reaction which have organized a conspiracy against revolutionary Ethiopia have not given up their plans and are now seeking to achieve by other means the aims they did not succeed in attaining with the aid of the Somali intervention in the Ogaden.

DOCUMENTARY ON ETHIOPIANS BUILDING NEW LIFE REVIEWED

LD181329Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 17 Apr 78 p 3 LD

[M. Domogatskikh article: "Awakened by the Revolution"]

[Text] In 5 years in Africa I frequently visited Ethiopia, and I always felt pain and sorrow on seeing the poverty, darkness and injustice in which the people of this country lived. The majority of the land belonged to the emperor, the numerous members of his family and the big landowners but the peasants were in bondage. The Ethiopian calendar is 7 years, 8 months behind the generally accepted one and in fact, under the old regime the country was centuries behind.

These thoughts came to me while I was watching the documentary movie "Ethiopia--Centuries and Years" which has just appeared. The creative collaboration between Soviet and Ethiopian documentary makers--A. Vorontsov, D. Mamleyev, G. Serov, (Tafesse Dzhara) and (Getachu Taraken)--has created a really moving movie about a country awakened by revolution.

We see on the screen a free, energetic people fully determined to build a new life and defend it without sparing any effort.

Fundamental changes are taking place in the country. Agrarian reform has been carried out. The peasants themselves have also changed: faces are smoothed into smiles, the light of hope has appeared in the eyes of people who have seen the sturdy embryos of a new life. Is this not a miracle--instead of a wooden plow with a narrow iron plowshare a tractor moving along the field! And it seems that the plow is not simply turning over layers of fertile land but the backward peasants' way of life. Peasants' associations have been created throughout the country.

The program for restructuring society assigns a decisive role to the working class, and today it is the bulwark of the revolution. At the plants and factories work is underway to create a political party which will become the vanguard of the working class and of revolutionary power.

Young enthusiasts are taking part in the liquidation of illiteracy and are building schools and hospitals in the most remote villages. When you see these wonderful scenes which will be looked on decades later as valuable historical evidence, you understand the enthusiasm of the first builders of the new Ethiopia.

Back in remote antiquity there was a custom in this country whereby when soldiers were expected to return from a campaign signallers were sent out to the mountain tops. They built fires, and the smoke over the mountains was a sort of message: black smoke meant defeat, white smoke meant victory.

We want the white smoke of victory embellished with the scarlet of the revolution which has brought new life to the ancient land always to rise over the peaks of the Ethiopian mountains.

WEST'S RHODESIA INITIATIVES NOT AIMED AT GENUINE SETTLEMENT

LD181037Y Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 16 Apr 78 Morning Edition p 3 LD

[Correspondent B. Pilyatskin dispatch: "Determination of Zimbabwe Patriots"]

[Text] Dar es Salaam--On Friday the "Tanzania" hall of Dar es Salaam's Kilimanjaro Hotel was the site for talks on the Rhodesian problem. [paragraph continues]

Participating in them are the leaders of the Zimbabwe Patriotic Front--J. Nkomo and R. Mugabe--British Foreign Secretary D. Owen, U.S. Secretary of State C. Vance, and A. Young, U.S. permanent representative at the United Nations. The foreign ministers of a number of African "frontline states" are present as observers.

On consenting to the meeting in Dar es Salaam, which was suggested by the authors of the Anglo-U.S. plan for Rhodesia, the Zimbabwe Patriotic Front declared that it regards it from the viewpoint of the possibility of the speediest realization of the main aim of the transfer of power to the African majority.

But as regards the "diplomatic initiatives" of the West, which has verbally called the Rhodesian regime illegal, they are directed, as the facts show, not toward a genuine settlement but are aimed above all at securing a "cease-fire" or, in other words, the renunciation of combat operations by the Zimbabwe patriots.

Nonetheless, the U.S. and British representatives have to take account of the realities, and these are such that no solution to the Rhodesian problem is possible without the participation of the Zimbabwe Patriotic Front--the sole legitimate representative of this country.

The Tanzanian press cites the words of J. Nkomo, one of the leaders of the Patriotic Front, to the effect that the struggle will continue until total victory.

CONGO PARTY DELEGATION ENDS USSR VISIT 10 APRIL

LD170955Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 12 Apr 78 p 4 LD

[Text] TASS--A delegation from the Congolese Labor Party [PCT] headed by P. Anga, member of the PCT Military Committee, which was in the Soviet Union at the invitation of the CPSU Central Committee, left for home on 10 April.

During its stay in the Soviet Union the delegation was received in the CPSU Central Committee, the Leningradskiy CPSU Obkom the Komsomol Central Committee, TASS, and the NOVOSTI press agency. It took part in a seminar during which there was an exchange of opinions with scholars from the USSR Academy of Sciences Social Sciences Institute and Africa Institute on questions of the world revolutionary process and the national liberation movement.

SOUTH ASIA

SHITIKOV DELEGATION MEETS INDIAN PARLIAMENTARIANS

LD180633Y Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 13 Apr 78 Morning Edition p 5 LD

[Correspondent I. Kovalev report: "Friendly Meetings"]

[Text] Delhi--The visit to India of a USSR Supreme Soviet delegation headed by A.P. Shitikov, chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Council of the Union, is continuing.

On Tuesday the delegation was received by Indian Vice President B.D. Jatti, and later by R. Varma, minister of labor and parliamentary affairs. During the meeting, R. Varma expressed India's desire to broaden and deepen the fruitful and mutually advantageous cooperation with the Soviet Union.

The delegation met with members of the Indian Parliament. During the talk A.P. Shitikov told the Indian parliamentarians about the new USSR Constitution and the activity of the USSR Supreme Soviet. K.S. Hegde, chairman of the Indian House of the People, who delivered the concluding speech at the talk, noted the Soviet Union's tremendous progress in all spheres of economic and public life. He stated that close, friendly relations have grown between India and the USSR. The Soviet Union, he said, has given India great assistance in its economic development, particularly in strengthening heavy industry--the basis of industrial progress.

Soviet Delegation Continues Visit

LD151052Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0930 GMT 15 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Delhi--The USSR Supreme Soviet delegation headed by Comrade Shitikov, chairman of the Soviet of the Union, which is in India on an official visit, is continuing its tour of the country. The Soviet guests visited Bombay, where they were received by Governor Ali and Patil, chief minister of Maharashtra State.

During a conversation, Ali particularly stressed the great part played by Leonid Ilich Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, in developing detente. The Indian people, he said, are grateful to Leonid Ilich Brezhnev for his devotion and energy in insuring that relations of friendship, cooperation and mutual understanding triumph among the peoples of the entire world.

Shitikov Returns From India

LD181850Y Moscow in English to South and Southeast Asia 1500 GMT 16 Apr 78 LD

[Text] A delegation of Soviet parliamentarians has returned to Moscow from India. It was headed by the chairman of one of the two houses of parliament, Aleksey Shitikov. In an interview for Radio Moscow he expressed satisfaction with the visit and said the discussions with India's leaders and parliamentarians were very useful. Aleksey Shitikov stressed that the visit of the Soviet delegation showed once again how strong is the friendship and cooperation between the two countries.

PHOUMSAVAN DESCRIBES LAOS' PROGRESS, THANKS CPSU

LD181005Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 15 Apr 78 p 4 LD

[Vietniane Correspondent Ye. Fadeyev dispatch: "The Spring of Great Hopes"]

[Excerpt] "We are looking to the future with confidence," Nouhak Phoumsavan, member of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party [LPRP] Central Committee Politburo, first deputy prime minister and minister of finance, stated in an interview with your correspondent. "This confidence is based on the results achieved in various fields of our society. There are 177 state plants and factories in the republic today. The upsurge in agriculture and the use of forests will primarily help to establish industrial production. Drawing the peasantry into various forms of cooperation, gathering two rice harvests a year, raising other crops, creating a broad network of irrigation structures--mainly medium and small--and applying progressive agricultural techniques and fertilizers will determine our further successes. The construction of the two plants is now underway in the capital province--one to produce fodder for livestock raising, the other for the production of vaccines; the second part of the Nam Ngum hydroelectric power station is being commissioned. An extremely important link in boosting the economy is the repair of old and construction of new roads. Reconstruction of Highway 9 has begun to gain an outlet to the sea through Vietnam. It is planned to use the waterways, particularly along the Mekong, more profitably.

"Great successes," Comrade Nouhak continued, "have been achieved by the republic in education, medical services and other social transformations. The number of school-children has increased 35 percent under the people's movement. More than 10,000 people have mastered fundamental literacy. Throughout the country, the movement to cultivate behavior and eradicate the remnants of the past is expanding. The gradual changeover to socialist production, the consolidation of the party's vanguard role and the country's defense capability, the education of the people in the new socialist formation, and raising the living standards of our people--these are the primary tasks established in the 'Main Directions of the Development of the National Economy of the Lao People's Democratic Republic for 1978-1980,' adopted at the recent session of the Supreme People's Assembly and the government of the republic.

"I would like," Nouhak Phoumsavan stated, "on behalf of the LPRP and the entire Lao people, to convey our deep and sincere gratitude to the CPSU, Comrade L.I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, and all the Soviet people for their help and support. The victory of our revolution is inseparable from this support and from the position of solidarity of the whole socialist community and all the world's peaceloving forces. This is why we are looking to the future with such confidence."

SRV EMBASSY IN PRC RESPONDS TO CAMBODIAN SLUR

LD181814Y Moscow TASS in English 1742 GMT 18 Apr 78 LD

["Slanderers Rebuffed Again"--TASS headline]

[Text] Peking, April 18, TASS--The Embassy of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam circulated here a statement which resolutely refutes allegations of the Kampuchean ambassador in the PRC concerning the policy of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam. At a function held yesterday in Kampuchea's Embassy in the PRC in connection with the day of Kampuchea's liberation, the ambassador of that country came out with gross anti-Vietnamese statements, tried to accuse the Socialist Republic of Vietnam of aggression and described the Socialist Vietnam as "enemy".

The statement of the Embassy of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, says this, in part: "While the Government of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam in Hanoi sent to the Kampuchean Government on the occasion of the liberation day a congratulatory message which is imbued with the striving for the preservation of friendship between the two peoples, Kampuchea's ambassador in the PRC used Peking as an arena so as, in connection with the same event, misrepresenting the real state of affairs, to make attacks on his recent comrades-in-arms who gave support to his country at a critical time. He repeated slanderous allegations concerning Vietnam and also made a boastful statement about "victory".

In its statement, the Embassy of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam recalls the letter of Kampuchea's Prime Minister Pol Pot to the Central Committee of the Vietnam Workers Party (now the Communist Party of Vietnam) of October 3, 1974. All victories won by the Kampuchean people are inseparably connected with the assistance of our brothers and comrades in arms--the party and people of Vietnam, he wrote in that letter.

HANOI DAILY MARKS CAMBODIAN INDEPENDENCE, SRV RELATIONS

LD171514Y Moscow TASS in English 1435 GMT 17 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Hanoi, April 17, TASS--The newspaper NHAN DAN has published an article, devoted to the national holiday of Democratic Kampuchea--Liberation Day. Three years ago, it says, the five-year heroic war of resistance of the Kampuchean people ended in victory: the capital of the country, Phnom Penh, was liberated and the regime of American henchmen, headed by the traitor, Lon Nol, collapsed. This glorious victory of the Kampuchean people was achieved due to the long-standing armed solidarity between the peoples of the three states of Indochina. Our people, who rendered assistance and support in the struggle against the common enemy, acclaims the victory of the Kampuchean people, achieved on April 17, 1975.

However, after this historic victory the Kampuchean authorities, proceeding from anti-Vietnamese positions, began to regard their close comrades-in-arms as an "eternal enemy". Endless armed attacks are being launched with their knowledged. A frontier conflict has broken out which is growing with every day and damaging seriously the mutual relation between the two peoples. This policy alarms the genuine friends of the peoples of the two states and gladdens the hearts of the imperialists and reactionaries.

Our people and government still adhere to the stand of principle: resolute defence of the independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, of the life and property of our people. At the same time they consistently honour the principles of independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of Democratic Kampuchea.

In its statement of February 5, 1978, the newspaper NHAN DAN notes, our government advanced a three-point proposal, which enjoys the sympathy and support of the world public at large. However, the Government of Democratic Kampuchea categorically rejects it to this day. For the sake of the interests of peace, friendship and goodneighbourliness on the Indochina Peninsula and in Southeast Asia we want Democratic Kampuchea to furnish a positive reply to the sound and logical proposal of our government.

We are firmly convinced, the article says in conclusion, that if Democratic Kampuchea and the Socialist Republic of Vietnam would sit down at a conference table in the spirit of mutual understanding and mutual respect, there would be no unresolved questions connected with the relations between the two countries. The border between them would become a frontier of friendship, while the traditions of solidarity between the two countries would be restored and further developed.

JAPAN, USSR EXCHANGE NOTES ON WHALING AGREEMENT

OW190615Y Tokyo KYODO in English 0533 GMT 19 Apr 78 OW

[Text] Tokyo, April 19, KYODO--Japan and the Soviet Union Tuesday exchanged notes to renew the agreement on the international observer scheme for factory ships engaged in pelagic whaling in the northern Pacific, the Foreign Ministry said Wednesday. The note exchange took place in Moscow between Japanese Ambassador Akira Shigemitsu and Soviet Fisheries Minister Aleksandr Ishkov, officials said.

Under the agreement, one of the observers nominated by one government will be appointed to each expedition under the jurisdiction of the other government to inspect whaling operations. The agreement, which was first signed in Moscow on April 13, 1972, have been renewed every year since it expired in February 1973, officials said. Japan and the Soviet Union are the only whaling countries engaged in pelagic whaling in the northern Pacific.

PRC FISHING BOATS REENTER JAPANESE WATERS

LD181354Y Moscow TASS in English 1336 GMT 18 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Tokyo, April 18, TASS--Over 40 Chinese fishing boats this morning once again entered the 12-mile zone of Senkaku Islands, which lie 400 kilometers southwest of Okinawa. According to a report by the Maritime Safety Agency, the group of Chinese ships, notwithstanding demands by Japanese patrol craft, refused to leave the coastal waters of the islands. This latest development aroused serious anxiety of the Japanese authorities. Japan's Foreign Minister S. Sonoda, speaking in the Foreign Affairs Committee of the upper house of parliament today, expressed sharp dissatisfaction over the actions of Peking, qualifying them as incompatible with international law. The Okinawa prefectural assembly, the KYODO TSUSHIN agency reports, today adopted a resolution, urging the government of the country to take vigorous steps to defend national sovereignty.

SENKAKU ISLANDS INTRUSION RAISES DOUBTS ABOUT PRC TREATY

LD181319Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 17 Apr 78 p 3 LD

[Correspondent I. Latyshev report: "Japanese-Chinese Conflict"]

[Text] Tokyo, 16 April--An ostentatious incursion into Japanese territorial waters by Chinese fishing boats has been continuing for several days near the Senkaku Islands. According to Japanese observers at the scene, the Chinese flotilla is constantly growing and now numbers about 140 vessels. These vessels carry machineguns and their crews are armed with submachine guns. Disregarding Japanese patrols' demands, the Chinese vessels refuse to leave Japanese territorial waters and continue to cruise ostentatiously inside their limits while the crews of these vessels aim their weapons at the Japanese patrol boats when they draw close to the Chinese boats.

The incident near the Senkaku Islands is having a considerable effect on Japanese public opinion. Many local press organs which recently supported a speedy conclusion to a Japanese-Chinese "peace and friendship treaty", are now expressing indignation at Peking's provocative behavior and questioning the expediency of resuming the treaty talks in view of recent developments. [paragraph continues]

A JAPAN TIMES editorial notes: "The incursion into Japanese territorial waters can itself be regarded as a perfectly graphic illustration of the hegemony China claims it wishes to prevent in east Asia.... The conflict launched by China near the Senkaku Islands can be considered quite characteristic of the Chinese approach to international relations...."

Peking's provocations are also sharply criticized in the Japanese Communist Party [JCP] press. A commentary points to the fact that the Chinese incursion in the Senkaku Islands zone "is an encroachment on Japan's sovereign rights." The newspaper AKAHATA, the organ of the JCP Central Committee, states that Peking's actions "undermine the foundations" of Prime Minister Fukuda's course toward resuming the Japanese-Chinese talks. Kenji Miyamoto, chairman of the JCP Central Committee Presidium, says: "The government should take a resolute stance aimed at preventing such actions and proceed in its policy from the premise that the Senkaku Islands are Japanese territory. Unless the opposition parties which support the speedy conclusion of the Japanese-Chinese peace and friendship treaty display determination on this issue, they will essentially be renouncing independence and will be acceding to the conclusion of a treaty under any conditions."

In Tokyo yesterday, a joint session of the Japanese Cabinet and leaders of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party was held. A decision was adopted at this session noting that the Senkaku Islands are Japanese territory and expressing the Japanese Government's intention to "make efforts to expel the Chinese fishing vessels from Japanese territorial waters." At the same time, this decision noted the government's intention to "continue to make efforts to conclude a Japanese-Chinese peace and friendship treaty in accordance with the joint statement signed by Japan and China in September 1972, despite the dispute over the ownership of the Senkaku Islands."

JAPAN MAKING U.S. AIRCRAFT, INCREASING ARMS BUDGET

LD171656Y Moscow TASS in English 1631 GMT 17 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Tokyo, April 17, TASS--TASS correspondent Nikolay Geronin reports: The Japanese Government decided to conclude a contract for the production of new types of war planes for the Self-Defence Forces with three major corporations--Mitsubishi Jukogyo, Kawasaki Jukogyo and Ishikawajima Harima Jukogyo.

Mitsubishi Jukogyo and Kawasaki Jukogyo will be manufacturing, respectively, fuselages of the F-15 fighter plane and the P3-C anti-submarine plane while the third corporation will be manufacturing engines for these planes. The manufacturing of these planes on American licences will be started in the current year. 221 billion yen has already been allocated under Japan's state budget for these purposes in the 1978 fiscal year.

In the years ahead it is planned to equip the Japanese Air Force and Navy with 100 such fighter-bombers and 45 seaplanes. They will be the main warplanes of the Japanese Armed Forces.

The production of the latest types of war planes in Japan is being developed in accordance with the course at expanding the country's war industry. The production of different types of warplanes, warships and submarines, tanks, artillery guns and firearms has been started at local plants. Japan's defence agency demands increasing deliveries of the latest weapons of Japanese and foreign makes to Japan's Self-Defence Forces.

About two trillion yen was allocated for military needs in the current fiscal year, an increase of 12.4 percent on the allocations for such needs in the previous year. It is planned to spend 12.6 trillion yen in 1977-1981 for the build-up of the Japanese Army that was created in violation of the country's Constitution. This is half of the funds that were allocated for the implementation of the four previous five-year plans of reinforcement of Japan's Armed Forces.

LOCKHEED SCANDAL REEMERGES IN JAPANESE DIET

LD132151Y Moscow TASS in English 2056 GMT 13 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Tokyo, April 13, TASS--Ever new facts of the Lockheed scandal come to light. A secret document from the archives of the Marubeni firm was made public in Japan's parliament. The heads of that firm performed the functions of "mediators" between the U.S. corporation and the Japanese ruling circles.

The document submitted for consideration of the local government commission in the upper house by members of parliament Y. Shitoma and S. Sato shows that in 1972 the Marubeni turned over large sums of funds to almost all groups of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party which influenced the government's decision in favour of purchasing Tristar planes from the Lockheed. According to the document with the fascimile signature of one of the main witnesses in the Lockheed case, former chief of the secretariat of the Marubeni firm, I.Sobjima, the firm turned over to bribe-takers, from the leadership of the Liberal Democratic Party 28.7 million yen in the second half of 1971 and 54.3 million yen in 1972.

The aforementioned sums were split among groups of the present Prime Minister Takeo Fukuda, former Prime Ministers Kakuei Tanaka and Takeo Miki and the present general secretary of the Liberal Democratic Party, Masayoshi Ohira, and chairman of the Executive Council of the Liberal Democratic Party, Yasuhiro Nakasone, according to their role in the country's social and political life. 1.5 million yen went to the group of young conservatives led by Y. Kono, who is now the leader of the New Liberal club.

In this connection, local commentators point out that many prominent state and political leaders of Japan are implicated in shady transactions and points out that the persons mentioned during the investigation whose guilt is the greatest remain at large. Some of them, for instance, Tanaka and S. Nikaido, even sit in parliament.

The Lockheed case that is being investigated by the Tokyo District Court for several years now remain in the centre of attention of the public and the opposition forces in parliament. They resolutely demand that all the circumstances of this scandal be investigated and all persons implicated in the scandal be strictly punished.

CUBAN FOREIGN MINISTER IN MOSCOW FOR MEETINGS

Talks Begin, Dinner Held

LD181936Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1830 GMT 18 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Isidoro Malmierca Peoli, member of the Central Committee of the Cuban Communist Party and foreign minister of the Republic of Cuba, arrived in Moscow today at the invitation of the Soviet Government on an official visit.

Talks began today between Andrey Andreyevich Gromyko and Malmierca.

During the talks, which passed in a friendly and cordial atmosphere, there was review of certain questions of the further deepening of fraternal friendship and all-round cooperation between the USSR and the Republic of Cuba. An exchange of opinions also took place on topical international problems of mutual interest.

Andrey Andreyevich Gromyko gave a dinner in honor of Isidoro Malmierca Peoli. At the dinner Gromyko and Malmierca exchanged speeches.

Talks With Gromyko End

LD191205Y Moscow TASS in English 1155 GMT 19 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, April 19, TASS--Talks between Andrey Gromyko, member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee and foreign minister of the USSR, and Isidoro Malmierca Peoli, member of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba and foreign minister of the Republic of Cuba, ended here today.

In a spirit of complete mutual understanding and cooperation, they continued to exchange opinions on a number of topical international problems. Great attention was given to the problems of stopping the arms race and of disarmament, the situation in the Middle East and in Africa.

GUYANA PRIME MINISTER TALKS WITH KOSYGIN, BREZHNEV

LD191028Y Moscow TASS in English 1011 GMT 19 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, April 19, TASS--Leonid Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, president of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, received Forbes Burnham, leader of the People's National Congress Party, prime minister of the Cooperative Republic of Guyana, in the Kremlin today. A warm and friendly conversation took place. The successful development of relations of friendship, solidarity and good cooperation between the Soviet Union and the Cooperative Republic of Guyana was noted with the satisfaction during the conversation.

Forbes Burnham is currently in the USSR on an official visit at the head of a government delegation at the invitation of the Soviet Government.

Talks between Aleksey Kosygin, member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR, and Forbes Burnham took place in Moscow.

'Warm, Friendly' Talks

LD191045Y Moscow TASS in English 1036 GMT 19 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, April 19, TASS--Leonid Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, president of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, received in the Kremlin today Forbes Burnham, the leader of the People's National Congress Party and prime minister of the Cooperative Republic of Guyana.

Leonid Brezhnev and Forbes Burnham had a warm friendly conversation during which they noted with satisfaction a successful development of relations of friendship, solidarity and good cooperation between the Soviet Union and the young independent Cooperative Republic of Guyana. Both sides expressed their intention to further expand and deepen these relations on the unshakable basis of full equality and mutual respect in accordance with the national interests of the two countries, a lasting peace and social progress.

Leonid Brezhnev and Forbes Burnham noted an identity or similarity of the positions of the Soviet Union and Guyana on major problems of the present international situation. They stressed a pressing need for active efforts by all states and peoples to consolidate the relaxation of international tension, free the peoples from the burdens and dangers of the growing arms race and to achieve concrete results in the fields of disarmament. The two sides unanimously expressed support for the liberation, anti-imperialist and anti-colonialist struggle of the peoples who seek to ensure their political and economic independence. One of the earnests of success in this struggle is in their opinion the solidarity of the socialist countries with it. They also stressed the importance of the non-alined movement in achieving these noble results.

USSR, GUYANA SIGN PROTOCOL ON COOPERATION IN FISHING

LD181702Y Moscow TASS in English 1508 GMT 18 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, April 18, TASS--The talks in Moscow between USSR Minister of Fisheries Aleksandr Ishkov and Guyana's Minister of Economic Development and Cooperatives Hugh Desmond Hoyte have ended today in the signing of a protocol on the further development of cooperation in the field of fishing. It provides, in particular, for the establishment of a joint Soviet-Guyana society for the catch, processing and sale of shellfish.

The talks were held within the framework of the intergovernmental agreement signed in 1977.

As is noted in the protocol, the revenues of the mixed society shall be distributed equally. At the first stage, the USSR is to send to the waters of Guyana one or two vessels for experimental fishing in the course of a year for determining the local fish resources. If the expedition is a success, the USSR may provide the society with up to eight ships by 1981. Then they will be turned over in succession to Guyana, and then the society will become the latter's purely national organisation for catching, processing and selling shellfish.

The sides reaffirmed the necessity of drawing up a long-term plan for the development of Guyana's fishing industry for a term of ten years.

Minister Ishkov said that in signing of the protocol "has laid a good foundation, on which a solid building of bilateral cooperation in the field of fisheries can be erected".

POLITICAL & SOCIAL DEVELOPMENTS

REPUBLICAN PARTY PLENUMS APPROVE DRAFT CONSTITUTIONS

LD181832Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1530 GMT 18 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Plenums of the central committees of the Ukrainian, Kazakh, Kirgiz and Lithuanian communist parties were held today. Questions of the draft constitutions for these republics and the results of their nationwide discussion were discussed. Reports were delivered in Kiev by Shcherbitskiy, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, first secretary of the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee and chairman of the committee for preparing the draft constitution; in Alma-Ata by Kunayev, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, first secretary of the Kazakh Communist Party Central Committee and chairman of the committee for preparing the draft constitution; in Frunze by Usubaliyev, first secretary of the Kirgiz Communist Party Central Committee and chairman of the constitutional committee; and in Vilnius by Kharazov, second secretary of the Lithuanian Communist Party Central Committee. The plenums approved the draft constitutions in the main as presented by the committees, with the additions, definitions and amendments made as a result of the nationwide discussion in each republic, and decided to forward them for examination at extraordinary sessions of the republican supreme soviets. The plenum of the Kirgiz Communist Party Central Committee also examined and confirmed measures aimed at fulfilling tasks arising from the directions and suggestions made by Comrade Brezhnev in his speeches and talks during his tour in Siberia and the Far East.

REPUBLICAN SUPREME SOVIETS APPROVE DRAFT CONSTITUTIONS

LD181834Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1530 GMT 18 Apr 78 LD

[Text] An extraordinary session of the Uzbek SSR Supreme Soviet, which opened in Tashkent today, is discussing the republic's draft constitution--basic law. A report was delivered by Rashidov, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, first secretary of the Uzbek Communist Party Central Committee and chairman of the constitutional committee.

Today, there was also an extraordinary session of the Latvian Supreme Soviet, which unanimously adopted the republic's new constitution. A report on the draft constitution and the results of its nationwide discussion was delivered by Voss, first secretary of the Latvian Communist Party Central Committee and chairman of the constitutional committee. Taking part in the session was Kuznetsov, deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium.

[Kiev Domestic Service in Ukrainian at 1800 GMT on 17 April reports that "the Ukrainian Supreme Soviet Presidium at its session today discussed a report by Vladimir Vasilyevich Shcherbitskiy, chairman of the Ukrainian SSR constitution drafting committees. CPSU Central Committee Politburo member and Ukrainian CP Central Committee first secretary, on the Ukrainian SSR draft constitution as amended by the all-people's discussion. The Ukrainian Supreme Soviet Presidium satisfactorily noted the high political and labor activity of Ukrainian SSR citizens manifested during the discussion on the republic's fundamental law, and the broad and business-like nature of the discussion itself. In its decision, the Presidium pointed out that the committee performed great work in drafting the Ukrainian SSR constitution and in scrutinizing and generalizing proposals and remarks concerning the draft made during the all-people's discussion in the republic." The report also notes that "the Ukrainian Supreme Soviet Presidium endorsed the Ukrainian SSR draft constitution--fundamental law--submitted by the committee as amended is to be submitted to examination at the extraordinary seventh session of the Ukrainian Supreme Soviet of the ninth convocation. The session also resolved questions concerning the forthcoming session of the Ukrainian Supreme Soviet session."]

[Moscow in English to South and Southeast Asia at 1000 GMT on 18 April reports that "7 of the 15 republics making up the Soviet Union have already approved their new constitutions. They were drawn up after the national constitution was adopted last autumn. All the Soviet republics have equal rights. Each has its parliament and government. One of the articles of the constitutions guarantees the people the right to use their native languages or the language of any other people. Judicial proceedings in the republics and all the documents at the institutions and offices are conducted and written in the native language. Studies at school and colleges are also conducted in the native language, and the same about newspapers and books that are published, and films that are made, and plays that are staged."]

'INDEPENDENT TRADE UNION' SEEKS RECOGNITION FROM MOSCOW

LD1814417 Paris LE MONDE in French 15 Apr 78 p 4 LD

[Daniel Vernet report: "Soviet Union--The 'Workers' Independent Trade Union' Asks To Be Recognized by the Authorities"]

[Text] Moscow--On 13 April, the group of workers who announced their intention in January to create a free trade union in the USSR asked officially for the registration of an "independent trade union of Soviet workers." It states in a letter addressed to the Supreme Soviet Presidium, the Presidium of the Council of Ministers and the authorities in charge of the official trade unions that the aim of this organization is "to contribute to the full and complete implementation of all Soviet laws and regulations governing labor relations, make the defense of men and women workers possible and insure for citizens the possibility of legal aid with a view to resolving labor conflicts."

Referring to the new Constitution, the International Charter of Human Rights and the ILO convention, the author of the letter expresses the view that the creation of such a trade union is not contrary to Soviet legislation.

The letter has been signed by one person only--Vsevolod Kivakin, a 38-year old lawyer. A former labor law specialist in the oil industry trade union, he lost his job 18 months ago for criticizing Soviet policy in letters sent to the Central Committee. However, this is no individual initiative. The group chose this procedure to prevent all the members of this trade union from being subjected to repressive measures. A complete list of its members will be published only if the Soviet authorities agree to register it, which seems most unlikely.

The four members of the group of workers who gave a press conference in December 1977 are either in jail (Poplavskiy and Yankov) or in a psychiatric hospital (Klebanov and Nikolayev). However, it seems that some other people are ready to take over--some 20 of them would apparently be willing to participate in the venture. Prior to his arrest, Klebanov mentioned a list containing 200 names of workers who had stated that they supported these objectives, but the group's organizers admit that it is very difficult for them to contact these people to obtain confirmation of their commitment. Originally, the group consisted of a few workers who wanted to protest against victimization, corruption and bad working conditions. Their revolt was devoid of any political and ideological aspects and they rather mistrusted the "champions of human rights" who have traditionally belonged to intellectual circles.

However, contacts have been established between this group of workers on the one hand and the group for monitoring the implementation of the Helsinki agreements and the committee against the use of psychiatry for political purposes on the other.

In February 1978, Kuvakin, who signed the letter to the Central Committee, was also "legal adviser" to the Helsinki group. The members of this group have expressed their solidarity with the organizers of the independent trade union who would like to extend their action to include the engineers and intellectuals who, like writers debarred from the Writers' Union, have been deprived of lawful means of existence.

BOOK ON CYBERNIZATION OF SOCIAL RELATIONSHIPS PANNED

LD111125Y Moscow SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA in Russian 5 Apr 78 p 3 LD

[Article by Doctor of Economic Sciences Prof V. Dunayeva: "Pseudoscience Beneath the Flag of Cybernetics"]

[Text] In recent years there has been a considerable development of economic-mathematical methods in our country and a rapid and wide-scale introduction of computers into management. In the last decade in particular, over 3,000 automated control systems have been created at various levels and the first phase of the USSR Gosplan and union republic gosplans' ASPR [automated system of planning estimates] has been commissioned. And it must be said right away that in-depth theoretical research, scientifically valid and balanced planning and the formulation of optimal managerial decisions would be inconceivable without them.

At the same time, you cannot turn a blind eye to the dangers inherent in the cybernization and mathemization of economic research in the event of economic-mathematical methods becoming divorced from Marxist-Leninist methodology. Overindulgence in abstract formulas inevitably leads to the investigation of real relationships being replaced by the creation of various kinds of models that do not correspond to the theory and practice of communist building. V.I. Lenin once pointed out that the major success of natural science, the fact that we are getting closer to the basic elements of matter whose laws of motion can be treated mathematically, "causes mathematicians to consign matter to oblivion. 'Matter disappears,' leaving only equations." An example of this "disappearance" of matter is L.N. Volgin's book "The Principle of the Agreed Optimum" [Printsip Soglasovannogo Optimuma], which was published recently in a substantial edition by the Sovetskoye Radio Publishing House.

The author's "economic theory" is nothing but a "study of the future mathematical political economy," which, apparently, will replace the existing one. The very use of mathematical methods in the political economy, Volgin maintains, will mean a leap forward in its development from a prescientific state to a "genuinely scientific" state. A leap forward like the one from alchemy to scientific chemistry and from astrology to scientific astronomy.

The author appears not to have the slightest idea of the scientific values of the Marxist political economy or of the brilliant examples of the use of mathematics as a means of comprehending economic processes and as an instrument of logic and analysis, which were given to us by the founders of scientific communism. Not surprisingly, the bibliography contains not a single book by Marx, Engels or Lenin.

The "novelty" of the future political economy expounded by Volgin consists not so much in the use of mathematical methods as in the affirmation of the views of vulgar bourgeois theoreticians. There is nothing in his "study" about Marxist methodology--instead he has the methodology of cybernetics. And instead of a class analysis of socioeconomic phenomena, there is the pedantic creation of "conflict" models and the speculative "universal" approach.

Let us begin with the subject of the "research." It is not the system of production relations in terms of their relationship with productive forces in different social and economic formations, but "the question of the optimum conduct of cybernetic subjects." By this the author means "various systems which have their own goal," including man, who is seeking to "gain maximum enjoyment" and to insure "his own maximum well-being." But once a "subject," by dint of his own psychology, "strives to insure for himself the best possible existence" there arise "conflicts and strife which place mankind on the brink of total annihilation."

In other words, the author's analysis focuses on "conflicting cybernetic subjects," without all the differences between social and economic formations, one of which is based on the antagonism between classes and the class struggle and the other based on relations of cooperation and mutual assistance; to the author this is "old hat." For him only "man in general" exists, independent of the environment--a "cybernetic subject." It is on this "methodological" basis that Volgin sets about the "noble" task of validating the "optimal social structure" which can satisfy all. And he unhesitatingly solves it with the help of the "principle of the agreed optimum."

"The agreed optimum," the author writes, "means the transformation of a conflict situation into a situation wherein none of the conflict participants can improve his status without harming his other partners through his own actions." The quest for an "agreed optimum" is conducted with the help of the analytical game theory--a general-purpose instrument for investigating economic problems--only because, the author maintains, "the contradictions between individual subjects cannot be eliminated under any political system".

This indifference toward the fundamental differences between opposing social systems leads Volgin to treat socialist society not as a society of associated producers united by relations of cooperation and mutual assistance, but as "interaction between conflicting subjects" with their own individual ambitions. "By knowing the criteria of all members of socialist society," Volgin believes, "it is possible to find the criterion for the socialist system as a whole." According to him the aim of social production is to "add up...the specific functions" of the members of society and combine their interests--"the normal addition of vectors."

This clearly mechanistic approach indicates a lack of understanding of the nature and social structure of socialist society and the correlation between individual and social interests. Hence the odd conclusion: "The principle of the agreed optimum is a mathematical expression and means of achieving a just solution of conflicts in relationships between people." By coordinating their actions in accordance with this principle and with the help of cybernetic machines they will allegedly "be able to achieve truly just production and other relations."

Such are the main initial premises of the "new mathematical political economy." But there is no "innovation" here: All the author's arguments are the modernized dogmas of vulgar bourgeois political economy. Incidentally, the author does not conceal the fact that he has taken his "ideas" from V. Pareto, a representative of the mathematical school of bourgeois political economy who dreamed of reducing the laws of political economy to the laws of mechanics. Volgin regards it as his "honor" that he has "rediscovered a work that was discovered long ago but was not seen for its true worth."

What about the author's personal contribution? It does exist: the application of the "principle of the agreed optimum" to exchange games--exchange which he automatically reduces to equivalent exchange--to optimizing production levels and planned management, to the theory of pricing and so forth. [paragraph continues]

The second part of the work is devoted to those problems. It postulates "fundamental laws of mathematical economics," or, in simpler terms, mathematically interprets the bourgeois theories of "marginal utility" and "marginal productivity" and attempts to combine them with the labor theory of value.

And here the author conclusively demonstrates his absolute ignorance of Marx' labor theory of value and his teaching regarding the dual character of labor. He does not distinguish the processes of creating use value and commodity value and asserts that the creator of value is not only labor but also nature: "Man lives at nature's expense and the new value he creates on earth is a transformation of the value that arises as a result of natural processes (in particular the process of the photosynthesis of organic substances from inorganic substances)," the author proclaims in Appendix 1 "Elements of Mathematical Political Economy."

Incidentally, at this point the editorial board makes one of its rare notes: It realizes that this appendix contains "disputed and not completely proven theses" but it hopes that these will arouse "useful scientific debate" since the author provides "nevertheless a clear abstract model which can be discussed." With the aid of these abstract cybernetic models, the editorial board hopes, it is possible to derive the "real laws regarding the functioning of economic systems." And if, it says, it transpires that an unsuccessful choice of model has been made, "it is necessary to display scientific maturity and not to despair." It is difficult to say whether there is more ignorance or irresponsibility in this note!

Let us take, for instance, Volgin's attempt to model--or, to be more precise, to revise from the positions of vulgar bourgeois political economy--the Marxian theory of surplus value. The teaching of surplus value--the cornerstone of Marxist economic science--proceeds from the premise that the value of manpower and the value created in its consumption, as Marx wrote, "are two different quantities." The latter is greater than the former, and the difference between them constitutes the surplus value that is appropriated without compensation by the capitalist. Volgin asserts: Surplus value is the sum of the unrepaid "value of manpower" and the "unrepaid expenditure of nature's resources." It, he says, is not appropriated without compensation by the private owner of the means of production, but "compensates for the capitalist's expenditure of labor on organizing production." That's the limit, as the saying goes.

The height of absurdity is Volgin's attempt to "improve" Malthusianism. In his opinion, the "growth in the value of earthly wealth" is conditioned by two factors--the "degradation of nature" and the "biological reproduction of living beings on earth." The author is following T. Malthus, who saw "frivolous habits" and "excessive fertility" as the reason for working people's grievous situation under capitalism. Marx was contemptous of the "profound baseness of the ideas" of this "advocate of the ruling classes." However, you are astonished to learn from Volgin's book that the only trouble with Malthus was that he "oversimplified the issue." And proceeding from the "Malthusian approximation," the author "enriches" Malthusiansim with higher mathematics.

Those are only some of the idiocies, absurdities and instances of elementary ignorance of the truisms of really scientific political economy. It all takes the form of pseudoscience under the flag of cybernetics and an attempt to push the "renovated" ideas of vulgar bourgeois economists by means of incorrect economic-mathematical models.

In this connection a few questions arise with regard to Sovetskoye Radio Publishing House. How was it possible for such an immature book to be published at all? Who refereed it and what were the referees' assessments like? On what grounds does the author of the editorial foreword represent Volgin's scholastic "work" as "original and necessary"? Is it advisable at all for a technical publishing house to publish literature which does not accord with its speciality?

AGRICULTURAL SUPPLY BODY NOTES EQUIPMENT DELIVERY PROBLEMS

LD180635Y Moscow SELSKAYA ZHIZN in Russian 12 Apr 78 p 2 LD

[Report by V. Degtyarev: "Insure Prompt Rural Deliveries!"]

[Text] The All-Union Operations Headquarters for Agricultural Material and Technical Supply has met again. The session was attended by representatives of industrial ministries and departments and supply organizations and discussed current questions connected with successful spring sowing on kolkhozes and sovkhozes.

The session was opened by A. A. Yezhevskiy, chairman of the All-Union Selkhoztekhnika Association. He noted that the country's farmers are seeking to mark this year's sowing campaign with shock labor and high production indicators and to do high-quality work in the optimum time. Efficient and continous sowing depends to a considerable extent on the efforts of worker collectives at industrial enterprises, which supply agriculture with new equipment, spare assemblies and parts, fuel, lubricants and other materials.

On the initiative of leading production workers many plants have launched wide-scale competition, their motto being: "Meet Rural Orders Ahead of Schedule!" Output destined for kolhozes and sovkhozes is under the daily control of party, trade union and Komsomol organizations.

At the same time, the headquarters session drew attention to the fact that some enterprises are failing to cope with production targets and are not meeting schedules for the delivery of products to the countryside. For this reason repair workers preparing the machinery and tractor pool for fieldwork and the machine operators are having problems. In the first quarter of the year the Odessapochvomash Production Association underdelivered to the tune of over 1,000 PLN-5-35 and PLN-4-35 plows and a considerable quantity of space running gear for soil cultivation machinery.

There were serious complaints against a number of USSR Automotive Industry Ministry enterprises. Deliveries of gearboxes by the Arzamas spare parts plant are extremely irregular. The Michurinsk Motordetail Association is failing to deliver piston rings. Aktuybinskselmash, the Belotserkovskiy agricultural machinebuilding plant and some others are also behind with deliveries.

The session examined specific measures to eliminate the shortcomings and improve material and technical supplies for the countryside.

The session was attended by executive workers of the CPSU Central Committee, the USSR People's Control Committee, the USSR Gossnab, the USSR Ministry of Agriculture and the All-Union Selkhoztekhnika Association.

BRIEFS

AMURSKAYA OBLAST GRAIN CROPS--The Amurskaya Oblast Agricultural Administration reports that on 17 April the oblast planted 30,145 hectares of early grain crops, including more than 12,000 hectares planted by Tambovskiy and Konstantinovskiy rayons. The oblast has already planted 148,300 hectares of grain crops or 19 percent of the area planned. Annual grass has been planted on an area of 12,200 hectares or 11 percent of the area planned. [Blagoveshchensk Domestic Service in Russian 1000 GMT 18 Apr 78 OW]

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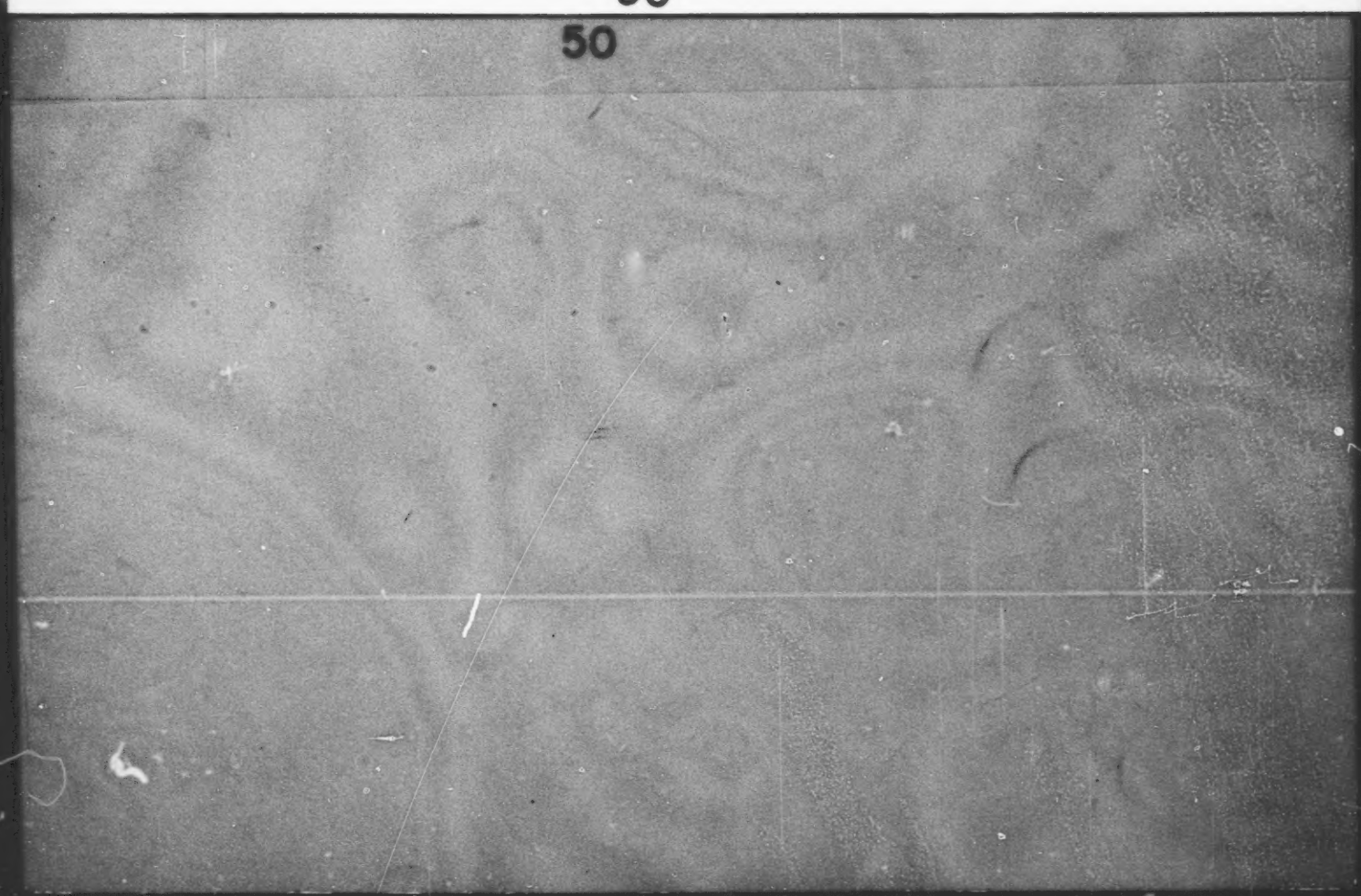
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